

حديقة من الاصل

THE TIMES

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PC told to resign for leaking data

A police constable who leaked information on private individuals stored on a police computer to a private investigator was yesterday required to resign from the Thames Valley force. Another constable in the same force has retired on health grounds but would otherwise have faced disciplinary charges for a similar offence.

Botha-Kaunda useful summit

Useful was the official cautious description of the exchange of views between Mr P. W. Botha, the South African Prime Minister, and President Kaunda of Zambia in a caravan straddling the Republic's border with Botswana.

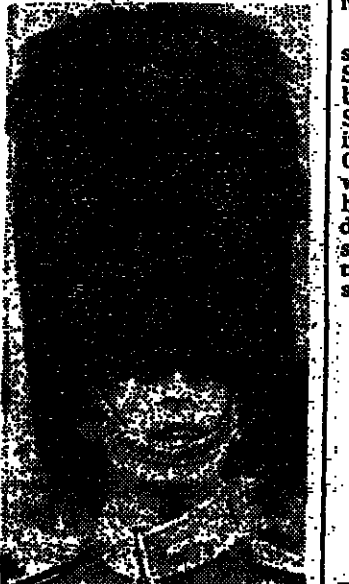
Statesman staff accept editor

Staff at the *New Statesman* accepted Mr Hugh Stephenson, former editor of *The Times Business News*, as their new editor after a series of meetings. Mr Stephenson said he had accepted the editorship in principle, subject to detailed agreement over terms.

BNOC plans to expand abroad

The state-owned British National Oil Corporation, which yesterday reported record annual pretax profits of £438m, is planning to expand overseas, partly in response to North-Sea oil taxes.

Prince receives freedom of town



The Prince of Wales, in full uniform as Colonel of the Welsh Guards, when he received the freedom of Carmarthen on behalf of his regiment.

Iranians launch second attack

Iran claims to have followed recent Gulf War victories with advances on the southern front and the capture of 1,000 Iraqi prisoners. The Iraqis say they have counter-attacked.

Villa fined for crowd trouble

Aston Villa, the European Cup finalists, were fined £14,500 and ordered to play their next home European tie behind closed doors as a result of crowd disturbances during their semi-final match against Anderlecht in Brussels.

Hongkong hint

China's newly-drafted constitution, which allows for special administrative regions, may provide an indication of what will happen to Hongkong when Britain loses the colony expires in 1997.

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US imposes economic and military curbs on Argentina

● The United States came down firmly on Britain's side in the Falklands crisis yesterday. Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, announced limited military and economic sanctions against Argentina. ● Señor Costa Méndez, the Argentine Foreign Minister, said his country was ready to continue peace efforts. But sovereignty was not negotiable. ● In Buenos Aires, the Soviet Ambassador had a meeting with an Argentine Minister.

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, April 30

The United States finally came out in support of Britain in its dispute with Argentina over the Falkland Islands, today, announcing limited military and economic sanctions against Argentina and its willingness to supply material support to British forces.

A statement made by Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, at a hastily arranged press conference this morning, made it clear that the United States had decided to end its role of "honorary broker" because of Argentina's failure to accept the latest American settlement proposals. Mr Haig said that the South Atlantic crisis was about to enter a new and dangerous phase in which large-scale military action is likely.

Although today's announcement marked the end of his three-week long mediation effort, Mr Haig emphasized that the Reagan Administration remained ready to assist Britain and Argentina in finding "an early and fair settlement". The decision to side openly with Britain was clearly designed to put maximum pressure on the military junta in Buenos Aires to reconsider the American peace plan before committing itself to a war with Britain.

Mr Haig emphasized in his statement that the United States effort all along had been to restore peace in the South Atlantic through the implementation of Security Council Resolution 502, which calls for an end to hostilities, withdrawal of Argentine troops from the islands, and a diplomatic settlement to the longstanding dispute about the islands' sovereignty. The sanctions announced

Haig speech
Falklands roundup
Leading article

Although Congress last year approved an Administration request for the embargo to be lifted, this was done on condition that President Reagan certified that Argentina was making progress in the field of human rights. That certification has not yet been issued.

At the end of March the Export-Import Bank had made loan commitments to Argentina amounting to \$1,200m (about £660m) of which \$700m has yet to be disbursed. This includes \$550m announced last December for a huge hydro-electric project called the Yacaré dam. Last month the bank made preliminary commitments totalling \$230m for specific projects. Bank sources said this money would be frozen.

The sources said that money for projects or purchases which were already in the pipeline would be honoured. The Commodity Credit Corporation has an outstanding one year \$2m line of credit to Argentina to finance the export of softwood lumber. This will no longer be available.

Observers noted that the United States did not place an embargo on trade with Argentina which is now running at \$3,000m a year, nor did it attempt to interfere with American private bank loans to Argentina worth more than \$8,000m.

In announcing that the United States would respond positively to requests for material support for British forces, Mr Haig emphasized that "there will of course be no direct United States military involvement".

In his statement, which was made following a meeting of the National Security Council attended by President Reagan, Mr Haig spelled out the main outlines of the American settlement proposals.

They involved: a cessation of hostilities; withdrawal of both Argentine and British forces; termination of sanctions against Argentina; establishment of a United States-United Kingdom-Argentine interim authority to maintain the agreement; continuation of the traditional local administration; procedures for encouraging cooperation in the development of the island, and a framework for negotiating a final settlement taking into account the interests of both sides and the wishes of the inhabitants.

Pym flying to talks with Haig and UN

By David Cross

Mr Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, said last night he was extremely glad that the United States had now come down decisively on the side of Britain in the Falklands dispute.

"To have the world's most powerful state on our side must make Argentina see that aggression cannot pay," he told a press conference at the Foreign Office.

Mr Pym said that he would be going to Washington today or tomorrow to review the new situation with Mr Haig to discuss the next steps. He would then go on to New York to see the Secretary General of the United Nations. "We shall not abandon our efforts for a peaceful settlement," Mr Pym said. "But Argentina must withdraw, as the Security Council resolution demanded four weeks ago."

"Then we shall be entirely ready to move on to the negotiations foreseen in the third point of the resolution. A conference or any other kind of negotiations can be considered."

Mr Pym said it had been the British Government's strategy all along to build up the economic, diplomatic and military pressures on Argentina. "Now with the United States backing, I am more confident than ever that justice will prevail against

Argentines aggressors - Reagan

Washington, April 30.—President Reagan today called Argentina an aggressor for seizing the Falkland Islands and said aggression must not be allowed to succeed. He addressed a luncheon meeting of newspaper editors shortly after Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, announced military and economic sanctions against Argentina.

Mr Reagan said the United States had not received any request for assistance from Britain so far.

"What the Secretary (of State) was saying was that we must remember that the aggression was the part of Argentina in this dispute over the sovereignty of that little ice-cold bunch of land down there," he said.

"The principle that all of us must abide by is armed aggression of that kind must not be allowed to succeed." He said he still hoped there would be a diplomatic solution to the crisis before further military action took place. "We have gone as far as we can go," he said, "and now the question is whether the efforts of Mr Haig, and there are still discussions going on at the United Nations, I believe, neither side wants violence."

He repeated Mr Haig's statement that the United States would not become directly involved militarily in the dispute — Reuters.

□ Mr Haig's announcement of economic sanctions against Argentina drew quick praise from members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee (the Press Association reports).

Mr Harold Brown, the former Secretary of Defence, said the actions indicated that President Reagan had gone more than halfway. "Senator Claiborne Pell, the ranking Democrat on the committee," said he had assured Mr Walter Stuessel, Under-Secretary of State, over the telephone that he supported the action taken and that he believed the majority of his colleagues did.

Senator Charles Percy said that he thought the Administration's action effectively reflected the sentiment of a resolution passed by the Senate last night by a 79-1 vote calling for the United States to take steps to help Britain.



Mr Haig: "Aggression must not succeed."

Costa Méndez refuses to concede sovereignty

From Zoriana Pysariwsky, New York, April 30

Señor Nicanor Costa Méndez, the Argentine Foreign Minister, today said his Government was ready to continue to take part in efforts aimed at a peaceful resolution of the Falkland Islands conflict, but that the issue of Argentine sovereignty over the islands, the main sticking point for both sides, was not negotiable.

He made the remarks to reporters immediately following a half-hour meeting with the United Nations Secretary General Javier Pérez de Cuellar. Señor Costa Méndez said: "We are ready to discuss every aspect of the problem, except Argentine sovereignty over the islands."

On the sanctions announced today by Mr Alexander Haig, the United States Secretary of State, against Argentina and the decision to side with Britain in the dispute, Señor Costa Méndez said he would have to study the statement.

Despite the expectation that a military clash was imminent with the breakdown of the peace initiative undertaken by Mr Haig, Señor Costa Méndez said it was up to Mr Haig to

Russian Ambassador seeks to fill vacuum

Buenos Aires, April 30.—The Soviet Ambassador to Argentina went to see Señor Enrique Ros, the Deputy Foreign Minister, within minutes of the announcement that President Reagan had ended United States mediation in the Falklands dispute, and was siding with Britain.

The Foreign Ministry reported that Mr Sergei Strigunov was seeing Señor Ros, but the subject of the meeting was not disclosed, and no further details were given.

The Argentine Government was "stupefied" by the announcement in Washington of sanctions against Argentina and support for Britain, according to a Foreign Ministry source.

Neither the official Argentine news agency, Telam, nor private agencies reported on the American announcements in the first two hours after their diffusion by international news agencies in Buenos Aires.—UPI & AP. President Galtieri was expected throughout the day to issue a fresh communiqué to the people, but early tonight it still had not arrived. (Christopher Thomas writes). The military committee, which includes the three-man junta and the armed forces, was meeting tonight to finalise war strategies. The air of confusion finally prompted Telam to issue an authorized version of what Señor Costa Méndez, the Foreign Minister, had said in New York. It quoted him as saying that he had not had a chance to study the United States announcement of sanctions, that he was ready to comply with the provisions of Security Council resolution 502 in its entirety, but that the question of sovereignty over the Falklands was not negotiable. He did not think the Peruvian nationality of the United Nations Secretary

Britain wins farming round

From Ian Murray, Luxembourg, April 30

President Mitterrand of France and Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor last night led a behind-the-scenes attempt to isolate Britain from its EEC partners during four farm price negotiations here.

Had the ploy succeeded it would have put Mr Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, at a severe bargaining disadvantage in the next round of negotiations on Britain's contribution to the EEC budget, which are expected to take place in the Ardennes next weekend.

As it was Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith, a Minister of State at the Agriculture Ministry, who scarcely left the negotiating table during the 24 and a half hours of discussion, was able to emerge at the end and say: "We are not isolated. We have never been isolated in the whole of these negotiations."

This means that it is still impossible for Britain's partners to point an accusing finger and claim that it is deliberately blocking a farm price settlement in order to blackmail the Community into agreeing a large rebate in its contribution to the EEC budget.

A broad agreement was, nevertheless, reached for a record £840m increase in agricultural spending which will add nearly 11 per cent to the Community's farm budget.

Estimates show this would add about 1.2 points to the British retail food index.

Despite the bluster under his eyes and the stubble in his cheeks, Mr Buchanan-Smith had a ready smile on his lips at the end. He was particularly pleased at having led the move to introduce the new £67m scheme to help small dairy farmers which will penalise larger producers. He was also pleased about progress in creating a new scheme to help to dry up Europe's wine lake.

He had pointed home yet again the fact that Britain cannot be expected to agree to any settlement until it knows the size of its budget contribution and so he tabled on the "excessive size of the price increases". He even had time to table reserves on projects for aubergines and apricots.

Most of all, he had carefully avoided the yawning trap of isolation which had been dug for him. Greece placed a total reserve on the entire proposed package unless it is offered special measures to deal with its inflation. Italy had reserves on the level of prices being proposed for wine bought in for distillation.

The telephone lines between Luxembourg and most of the European capitals had been buzzing all the previous evening, according

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Government and MSC may clash on youth scheme

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Correspondent

The Government is likely to risk direct conflict with the Manpower Services Commission and Mr David Young, its new chairman, by insisting that school-leavers who refuse a place on the new youth training scheme should be denied supplementary benefit.

Senior ministers are still extremely reluctant that benefit should be paid to those who do not take part in the £1,100m scheme, despite a unanimous recommendation by the commission to that effect.

The plan to withhold benefit from what the Government hopes will be a small minority of 16-year-olds when the scheme is fully operational at the end of 1983 was condemned as a form of "conscripted" by the TUC and voluntary groups when it was disclosed in the Government's training White Paper at the end of last year.

The MSC is due to publish on Tuesday the report of a joint union and employer task group which was unanimously approved by the commission last week and which proposes significant changes to the scheme.

It argues that allowances to young people on the scheme should be increased to £28 from the planned level of £15 a week and that the social security benefit should remain available for those who do not take part.

Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, is thought to favour the proposal to increase the allowance.

But while no formal decision has yet been taken by the Cabinet, Mr Tebbit and his senior colleagues are believed to be adamant that

those who decide not to take up new places on a scheme intended to guarantee every 16-year-old a year's basic industrial training cannot expect to be paid by the state.

Senior union leaders are delighted at what they see as their success in persuading both the Confederation of British Industry and the independent members of the commission to join forces with them in backing the task group report.

Mr Tebbit is likely to argue that the decision on who is eligible for benefit is one for the Department of Health and Social Security.

Well before the White Paper, several ministers, including Mr James Prior, Mr Tibbitt's predecessor, were already inclined to withhold social security from young people refusing places on a training programme.

The Government is cautious about the task group's recommendation that the scheme should be extended to cover all 16-year-olds in work as well as those without a job.

Although the Government is committed to an integrated training scheme in the long term some Ministers take the view that the huge task of organizing the scheme, which would provide 300,000 places by September 1983, needs to be completed before further expansion can be envisaged.

Print dispute

Dismissal notices went out last night to 168 machine minders at the Eric Benmore Printing Works, Liverpool, over unofficial disruptive action in a pay dispute.



"Times" past and present: Keyboard operators at work on (left) a Linotype and (right) a new visual display unit.

The Times bids farewell to old technology

By Alan Hamilton

This edition of *The Times* is a milestone on a road which, for this newspaper in the recent past, has been unlit by headlights, and it is the last to be produced in any part by hot-metal composition, the last living relative of Johann Gutenberg's fifteenth-century brainchild, movable type.

From Monday the entire newspaper will be set by photocomposition and computer, a means known to all who work with it, whether or not they comprehend its mysteries, as New Technology. Its novelty, however, extends only to Fleet Street; elsewhere in the world it is a common and established way of producing print.

The *Times* must be circumspect in its claims. We are, to be exact, the first British broadsheet national newspaper to be set entirely by photocomposition. A similar process is already employed at the *Daily Mirror*. But the *Mirror* is a paper of

small pages, short stories, and pictures. *The Times* is a newspaper of words; a recent 34-page edition contained 1,222,945 individual characters of type, and to set such a weight of words each night, mostly within the tight confines of a late afternoon and early evening, is a task which hovers permanently and dangerously close to the impossible.

It has been a revolution by stealth, if only because such profound changes must by nature attract their share of mischance, and a newspaper is a nakedly public place to make mistakes. The first editorial pages "went cold" on March 16, 1981, and the last — the front and the back — on March 23 this year, leaving only the classified advertisements set in metal. They appear by that means for the last time today.

To sell the benefits of new technology to the reader is difficult, for he is likely to notice only its failings, although he may observe a cleaner and crisper imprint of print on paper. Its advan-



tages are chiefly economic; what was once the work of 375 men in the composing areas of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* will become the work of 186, and the traditional demarcations of the print craft have already been reduced to allow one man to set type, make up pages and read proofs, three jobs whose boundaries in the past were not crossed.

Bill Gillespie, managing director of Times Newspapers, said: "The introduction of new technology is a significant factor in the survival of *The Times*. For a newspaper like ours with a heavy set, there is no question that it is worthwhile."

But it could not have been undertaken at a worse time. Mr George Vowles, head printer of *The Times*, said: "We bought it in at a time of recession, with three million people already unemployed. We did it while the ownership of the newspaper was changing, and while the paper itself was being radically altered."

Photocomposition is the third great revolution to upturn the printing craft since Gutenberg overtook the woodcut, and *The Times* has been in the forefront of them all.

In 1814 John Walter installed at *The Times* the first steam printing press, four times faster than his competitors' hand presses. He set out with his operatives that *The Times* remained a non-union shop for a century. In 1872 the newspaper was the first national daily to install a mechanical typesetting machine, which set type twice as fast as a man picking it letter by letter from a case. Not until 1890 did any other London daily risk such progress.

It is the Linotype, the successor to that first typesetting machine, which has been made redundant at *The Times*, and will become obsolete at *The Sunday Times* when that newspaper, too, is converted.

Science report

Alligator males prefer it hot

By the Staff of "Nature"

Although for most species being male or female is determined genetically at fertilization, the sex of alligator offspring is not fixed until about two weeks after fertilization and the outcome is determined by the temperature of the egg during that period.

That is the conclusion of laboratory and field studies carried out by Dr Mark Ferguson from Queen's University, Belfast, and Dr Ted Joanon of the Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge in Grand Chenier, Louisiana. They first demonstrated experimentally that eggs kept at 30°C or below all hatched into females whereas those kept at 34°C or above all hatched into males. Between those two temperatures varying proportions of males and females hatched.

To see what bearing those dramatic results had on the wild population, the temperatures of many nests throughout the Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge were carefully monitored. Unlike birds, which carefully incubate their eggs to keep them at a constant temperature, alligators make large untidy nests of rotting vegetation which are abandoned after egg-laying.

Dr Ferguson and Dr Joanon found that in nests at dry sites a temperature of about 35°C was maintained and all the hatchlings that eventually emerged were males. In contrast, the temperatures in the more numerous nests in very wet sites throughout the marsh was around 30°C and eggs from these nests produced only female hatchlings.

To get an idea of the effects of temperature throughout the whole population of the refuge, the sex of 8,000 offspring from all types of nest, were recorded for four years. Overall five females emerged for every male, a ratio later compensated for by the fact that adult males mate several times in any breeding season.

Previous studies, largely in the laboratory, have shown that temperature determines sex in some other reptiles. Dr Ferguson and Dr Joanon speculate that dinosaurs were another group of reptiles whose sex was temperature-controlled. If so, that may have been an important element in their downfall.

The small increases in temperature thought to have occurred at the end of the Cretaceous period, when dinosaurs became extinct, may have had a profound and ultimately disastrous effect on the ratio between males and females.

Nature (vol 296, p 850), April 29, 1982.

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New Sunday paper set to go

By a Staff Reporter

Britain's first new national Sunday newspaper since the launch of the *Sunday Telegraph* 21 years ago goes on sale tomorrow. *The Mail On Sunday* will attempt to capture what its proprietor, Lord Rothermere, has described as the middle ground between the haughty papers and the naughty papers.

Associated Newspapers, publishers of the *Daily Mail*, have not had a Sunday paper since the demise of their *Sunday Dispatch* in 1960. The new publication will help to spread the overheads of Associated's extensive Fleet Street printing plant, which have been borne entirely by the *Daily Mail* since its closure by Associated of the London Evening News in October 1980.

Mr Bernard Shrimley, a former editor of *The Sun* and the *News of the World*, who is now editor of *The Mail On Sunday*, said yesterday that his paper would be quite distinct from the weekday *Daily Mail*, but would follow that newspaper's traditional political outlook of independent Conservatism.

Mr Shrimley has assembled a formidable team of writers. John Osborne will be the paper's television critic, and other familiar names in the first issue include Jilly Cooper, Brian Walden, Michael Parkinson and Sebastian Coe. Captain Mark Phillips has agreed to write occasionally on equestrianism. *The Mail On Sunday* will rely heavily on book serialisations, and tomorrow's issue will include the memoirs of Billie Jean King, the tennis player.

Associated has been seeking to launch a Sunday paper for at least four years, but has only recently been able to find sufficient spare printing capacity. The end of the *Evening News*, and a change in the arrangements for producing the *Mirror Group's Sunday People*, which is printed on contract by Associated, have released the necessary plant at Associated's New Carmelite House in London.

For a 13-week trial period, extra copies of the new paper will also be printed in

Manchester, at the printing plant jointly owned by Associated and *The Guardian*.

Present arrangements allow for a maximum print run of about two million copies, and Mr Shrimley said yesterday that he expected half a million firm orders by the time the paper appeared.

Associated are hoping for an initial circulation of about 1.2 million, rising gradually to 1.6 million. Their principal target is the *Sunday Express*, now the only remaining middle-ground Sunday but with an aging readership and diminishing sales. The intention is that the new paper's readership should be in the ABC1 social categories.

Profits of Associated Newspapers, which are generated by oil and property as well as publishing, fell from £22.5m to £16.2m this year, the greatest drop being the *Daily Mail*, which lost an estimated £3m through having to carry all the overheads of its printing plant.

Children trick man out of £500

Two young children yesterday tricked a man aged 90 out of his life savings (Our Sheffield Correspondent writes).

A girl aged five and a boy aged 10 called at Mr Gilbert McKenzie's flat in Cavendish Row, Broomhall, Sheffield, offering to sell flowers.

Mr McKenzie, who is partially deaf and disabled, refused to buy any, but he allowed the girl to use his lavatory. As he showed her the way, the boy sneaked into the flat and stole £500 from Mr McKenzie's wallet.

Mr McKenzie, a retired engineering worker, said: "They were only young kids and you don't suspect they might do something like this to you."

Heritage hope

Conservationists have to salvage many of the features of Barlaston Hall, which was sold by the Wedgwood Pottery group for £1 last September. Save Britain's Heritage is hoping to convert the listed building near Stone, Staffordshire into four flats instead of the seven originally planned. Sophie Andreae, a spokesman, said the scheme would keep rooms intact. Original plaster and woodwork would be restored.

Karpov leading

Anatoly Karpov was last night leading with 8½ points, in the 13th and final round of the Philips and Drew King's chess tournament at County Hall, London. Four of the seven games had been finished and Karpov was matched against Boris Spassky, former world champion.

Unions unite

The National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers, merges with the Transport and General Workers' Union today. The Department of Employment's certification officer yesterday overruled last-minute objections to the merger.

Blast kills two

Two RAF men were killed in an explosion at the Royal Aircraft Establishment base at West Freugh near Stranraer, yesterday. They were among a team of four working on a bombing range.

Stephenson's 'Statesman' More analytical approach expected

By David Nicholson-Lord

A more reflective, diverse and less overtly abrasive tone is expected in the pages of the new *Statesman* magazine with the appointment as editor of Mr Hugh Stephenson, former editor of *The Times* Magazine News.

Unlike Mr Bruce Page Mr Stephenson will not arrive at the magazine's offices in Great Tarryn Street with a reputation as a steamrollering investigative journalist. His style, both personally and professionally is altogether cooler, more measured and more analytical.

Magazine staff who opposed his appointment after initial fears of a Social Democratic takeover, will find his style more to their liking than they imagine, however. Mr Stephenson is joining an organization which sets much store by participation and he is viewed as a skilled harmonizer and a firm egalitarian.

He said yesterday that he wanted to see a magazine

containing "a large number of different elements because there are large numbers of different people who buy it for large numbers of reasons".

In fact his most pressing concern will probably be mounting losses and declining circulation, from 93,000 in 1965 to 37,500 last year, a decline which continued under Mr Page.

Mr Stephenson added: "It seems increasingly likely that we are going to get another Thatcher government in this country. Over the next five years the scene is going to be wide open for a serious journal of the left, especially since Fleet Street is moving to the right."

Mr Stephenson's background is discernibly elitist. He is the son of an ambassador, was educated at Winchester, and New College, Oxford, where was a history exhibitioner and president of the union.

He did National Service as a naval officer, joined the diplomatic service and by 1963 was a second secretary in Bonn. He then made a surprising switch of career, joining *The Times* as economic correspondent under the auspices of Mr Peter Jay, his former contemporary at Winchester and Oxford, who was then the paper's economic editor.

He became business news editor in 1972, served on the Wilson committee on the City but left the paper last year after the changes in owner and editorship. Since then his career, ranging from the purchase of the magazine *History Today* to a leadership job on *The Guardian*, has assumed an indeterminate look.

Friends describe him as reserved, with a dry wit and a good sense of humour. His brand of socialism is said to be Croslandite, pragmatic and non-ideological.

No closed shop ballots likely for two years

By our Labour Correspondent

The Government appears certain to wait for two years after its new Employment Bill becomes law before enforcing the clause providing for workplace ballots on whether a closed shop should continue.

Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, denied yesterday that the widely reported speech by Dr James McFarlane, director general of the Engineering Employers Federation, criticizing the Government's fresh curbs on the closed shop, reflected a "major difference" between the EEF and the Government.

Dr McFarlane told a *Financial Times* industrial relations conference that "in general we have no enthusiasm for the 1982 Employment Bill's proposals for reviewing closed shops" and added that the Government should defer until after the next general election, the provision for periodic reviews of existing closed shops.

At the same conference yesterday, Mr Tebbit went out of his way to point out that he had already made it plain "that I was minded to give one or two years after Royal Assent for proper preparation for ballots before I brought it into force".

Mr Tebbit added: "The headline about that should have been Small Disagreement with the EEF. Mr Tebbit claimed yesterday was over the federation's argument that employers should be legally empowered to lay off their employees in the event of industrial action by others."

Mr Shirley Williams, SDP MP for Crosby told the conference that her party had yesterday put down amendments to the Employment Bill, seeking individual secret ballots for national union officers.

Mr Len Murray, General Secretary of the TUC said yesterday that unions would defend themselves against the 1982 Employment Bill (Tin Jones writes). He told the Welsh TUC Congress at Llandudno: "Tebbit's law has been conceived in malice and born out of hostility to the very idea of trade unionism."

Archbishop to address the congregation, which will include members of the General Synod of the Church of England, primates of churches of the Anglican Communion, members of the Free Church Federal Council, and Roman Catholic leaders. It will be the first time a pope has delivered an address in an Anglican cathedral.

The Pope and the Archbishop will also make two acts of homage, one at the Martyrs' Chapel and one at the point where Thomas Becket was murdered. The entire congregation will also join in the recitation of baptismal vows and of the Apostles' Creed.

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Test-tube baby research questioned

By Nicholas Timmins

Some forms of research using the test-tube baby technique and some of the uses to which it could be put should be banned, Mr Ian Kennedy, reader in law at King's College London and the 1980 Reith lecturer, said yesterday.

A standing Government-appointed committee should be set up to examine new techniques made possible by medical science so that ethical issues could be tackled "before we are overtaken by events", he said.

Speaking at the National Association of Family Planning Doctors annual meeting in London, Mr Kennedy said the ever-rising consideration with new techniques which affect fertility must be the interests of the child.

"Surrogate mothers" who agree to bear a child for another woman, using either artificial insemination or the test-tube baby technique, should be outlawed. Children so produced might be damaged by the consequences, he said. There were other ways for "childless couples to acquire a child; adoption was one."

Tests on embryos created by *in vitro* fertilization, the test-tube baby technique, should also be banned where they are created with the potential for human life, only for the purposes of testing.

Mr Kennedy also expressed reservations about the frozen storage of human embryos created by the test-tube baby technique. Storage might damage the embryos, he said.

Agricultural advice for Third World

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

A new programme to persuade Third World countries to make more use of Britain's agricultural expertise was launched by the British Council yesterday.

The council's offices in 78 countries will supply information both on the availability of advisers, equipment and technical services for agricultural projects, and on courses at British universities and other institutions.

Dr Tom Craig-Cameron, senior officer in charge of agricultural projects, emphasized that it was in no sense an aid programme. "The objectives were to promote commercial services on a commercial basis and to fill places in educational institutions in this country which had been affected by financial cuts."

Since many potential clients are from the world's poorer nations, it is hoped that much of the finance will come from agencies such as the World Bank, the Asian, African and Inter-American Development Bank and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation.

Overseas selling prices: Wheat 100kg 1.00, 1.05, 1.10, 1.15, 1.20, 1.25, 1.30, 1.35, 1.40, 1.45, 1.50, 1.55, 1.60, 1.65, 1.70, 1.75, 1.80, 1.85, 1.90, 1.95, 2.00, 2.05, 2.10, 2.15, 2.20, 2.25, 2.30, 2.35, 2.40, 2.45, 2.50, 2.55, 2.60, 2.65, 2.70, 2.75, 2.80, 2.85, 2.90, 2.95, 3.00, 3.05, 3.10, 3.15, 3.20, 3.25, 3.30, 3.35, 3.40, 3.45, 3.50, 3.55, 3.60, 3.65, 3.70, 3.75, 3.80, 3.85, 3.90, 3.95, 4.00, 4.05, 4.10, 4.15, 4.20, 4.25, 4.30, 4.35, 4.40, 4.45, 4.50, 4.55, 4.60, 4.65, 4.70, 4.75, 4.80, 4.85, 4.90, 4.95, 5.00, 5.05, 5.10, 5.15, 5.20, 5.25, 5.30, 5.35, 5.40, 5.45, 5.50, 5.55, 5.60, 5.65, 5.70, 5.75, 5.80, 5.85, 5.90, 5.95, 6.00, 6.05, 6.10, 6.15, 6.20, 6.25, 6.30, 6.35, 6.40, 6.45, 6.50, 6.55, 6.60, 6.65, 6.70, 6.75, 6.80, 6.85, 6.90, 6.95, 7.00, 7.05, 7.10, 7.15, 7.20, 7.25, 7.30, 7.35, 7.40, 7.45, 7.50, 7.55, 7.60, 7.65, 7.70, 7.75, 7.80, 7.85, 7.90, 7.95, 8.00, 8.05, 8.10, 8.15, 8.20, 8.25, 8.30, 8.35, 8.40, 8.45, 8.50, 8.55, 8.60, 8.65, 8.70, 8.75, 8.80, 8.85, 8.90, 8.95, 9.00, 9.05, 9.10, 9.15, 9.20, 9.25, 9.30, 9.35, 9.40, 9.45, 9.50, 9.55, 9.60, 9.65, 9.70, 9.75, 9.80, 9.85, 9.90, 9.95, 10.00, 10.05, 10.10, 10.15, 10.20, 10.25, 10.30, 10.35, 10.40, 10.45, 10.50, 10.55, 10.60, 10.65, 10.70, 10.75, 10.80, 10.85, 10.90, 10.95, 11.00, 11.05, 11.10, 11.15, 11.20, 11.25, 11.30, 11.35, 11.40, 11.45, 11.50, 11.55, 11.60, 11.65, 11.70, 11.75, 11.80, 11.85, 11.90, 11.95, 12.00, 12.05, 12.10, 12.15, 12.20, 12.25, 12.30, 12.35, 12.40, 12.45, 12.50, 12.55, 12.60, 12.65, 12.70, 12.75, 12.80, 12.85, 12.90, 12.95, 13.00, 13.05, 13.10, 13.15, 13.20, 13.25, 13.30, 13.35, 13.40, 13.45, 13.50, 13.55, 13.60, 13.65, 13.70, 13.75, 13.80, 13.85, 13.90, 13.95, 14.00, 14.05, 14.10, 14.15, 14.20, 14.25, 14.30, 14.35, 14.40, 14.45, 14.50, 14.55, 14.60, 14.65, 14.70, 14.75, 14.80, 14.85, 14.90, 14.95, 15.00, 15.05, 15.10, 15.15, 15.20, 15.25, 15.30, 15.35, 15.40, 15.45, 15.50, 15.55, 15.60, 15.65, 15.70, 15.75, 15.80, 15.85, 15.90, 15.95, 16.00, 16.05, 16.10, 16.15, 16.20, 16.25, 16.30, 16.35, 16.40, 16.45, 16.50, 16.55, 16.60, 16.65, 16.70, 16.75, 16.80, 16.85, 16.90, 16.95, 17.00, 17.05, 17.10, 17.15, 17.20, 17.25, 17.30, 17.35, 17.40, 17.45, 17.50, 17.55, 17.60, 17.65, 17.70, 17.75, 17.80, 17.85, 17.90, 17.95, 18.00, 18.05, 18.10, 18.15, 18.20, 18.25, 18.30, 18.35, 18.40, 18.45, 18.50, 18.55, 18.60, 18.65, 18.70, 18.75, 18.80, 18.85, 18.90, 18.95, 19.00, 19.05, 19.10, 19.15, 19.20, 19.25, 19.30, 19.35, 19.40, 19.45, 19.50, 19.55, 19.60, 19.65, 19.70, 19.75, 19.80, 19.85, 19.90, 19.95, 20.00, 20.05, 20.10, 20.15, 20.20, 20.25, 20.30, 20.35, 20.40, 20.45, 20.50, 20.55, 20.60, 20.65, 20.70, 20.75, 20.80, 20.85, 20.90, 20.95, 21.00, 21.05, 21.10, 21.15, 21.20, 21.25, 21.30, 21.35, 21.40, 21.45, 21.50, 21.55, 21.60, 21.65, 21.70, 21.75, 21.80, 21.85, 21.90, 21.95, 22.00, 22.05, 22.10, 22.15, 22.20, 22.25, 22.30, 22.35, 22.40, 22.45, 22.50, 22.55, 22.60, 22.65, 22.70, 22.75, 22.80, 22.85, 22.90, 22.95, 23.00, 23.05, 23.10, 23.15, 23.20, 23.25, 23.30, 23.35, 23.40, 23.45, 23.50, 23.55, 23.60, 23.65, 23.70, 23.75, 23.80, 23.85, 23.90, 23.95, 24.00, 24.05, 24.10, 24.15, 24.20, 24.25, 24.30, 24.35, 24.40, 24.45, 24.50, 24.55, 24.60, 24.65, 24.70, 24.75, 24.80, 24.85, 24.90, 24.95, 25.00, 25.05, 25.10, 25.15, 25.20, 25.25, 25.30, 25.35, 25.40, 25.45, 25.50, 25.55, 25.60, 25.65, 25.70, 25.75, 25.80, 25.85, 25.90, 25.95, 26.00, 26.05, 26.10, 26.15, 26.20, 26.25, 26.30, 26.35, 26.40, 26.45, 26.50, 26.55, 26.60, 26.65, 26.70, 26.75, 26.80, 26.85, 26.90, 26.95, 27.00, 27.05, 27.10, 27.15, 27.20, 27.25, 27.30, 27.35, 27.40, 27.45, 27.50, 27.55, 27.60, 27.65, 27.70, 27.75, 27.80, 27.85, 27.90, 27.95, 28.00, 28.05, 28.10, 28.15, 28.20, 28.25, 28.30, 28.35, 28.40, 28.45, 28.50, 28.55, 28.60, 28.65, 28.70, 28.75, 28.80, 28.85, 28.90, 28.95, 29.00, 29.05, 29.10, 2

Breakaway buoys to be banned

Metal buoys which are a hazard to ships and smaller boats when they break adrift from oil rigs in the North Sea are to be banned, the Department of Energy has announced. Some of the big steel canister buoys occasionally wash ashore on Shetland beaches. (Jonathan Willis writes.)

The breakaway buoys drifting at sea are a hazard to North Sea fishermen and yacht skippers. Any small wooden vessel hitting one in the dark would have little chance of survival and they are difficult to detect by radar if there is a sea running.

The buoys are used to mark anchors on oil rigs and although the industry is getting better at recovering them, unmarked buoys are a problem for coastguards. The cost of recovering them has to be paid out of public funds.

Concern about the dangerous flotsam has led the Department of Energy to announce the ban on steel buoys for most purposes in the North Sea oilfields. As from May 1 next year, soft buoys will have to be used.

Prison officers sent for trial

Five prison officers facing charges of conspiracy to defraud were yesterday committed for trial by Liverpool magistrates. But another officer, Mr George Rimmer, of Heathfield Road, Southport, was discharged.

The five are alleged to have overruled prisoners in the canteen at Walton Prison, Liverpool, between April, 1979, and October, 1980. They are: Peter Baylison, of 10, The Crown, Southport; Patrick Flynn, of Oakham Drive, Fazakerley; Michael Kelly, of 10, The Crown, Southport; William Rose, of 10, The Crown, Southport; and David Ashcroft, of 10, The Crown, Southport.

Court order

Anthony William Brand-Sackey, a student, aged 17, of Oak Tree Close, Leeds, was ordered to be detained during Her Majesty's pleasure at Lees Crown Court yesterday for the murder of Mrs Malika Dheersinghe, aged 29, a cleaner at his former school.

Coach fined

Raymond Bunkell, aged 32, of Kempton Drive, Cornard, Suffolk, the coach of Colchester United Football Club, was fined £200 by Hereford magistrates yesterday after pleading guilty to using insulting words and behaviour towards Hereford United's officials during a match in March.

Army wife killed

Police launched a murder hunt yesterday after an army corporal's wife was found murdered. Mrs Susan Neil, aged 22, had been beaten and strangled when her husband found her in her bed at army married quarters in Willens Park, Aldershot, Hampshire.

Aid warning

Lord Justice Ormrod criticized the legal aid authorities in the House of Lords yesterday for partly financing intractable disputes over children used as "footballs" between problem families and local authorities.

New on the air

Radio Cambridgeshire, the BBC's twenty-third local radio station, goes on the air today for 42 hours a week covering the county from studios in Cambridge and Peterborough.

Graves dispute

Funerals and cremations in Liverpool will be halted from next Tuesday if 140 grave diggers carry out their threat to strike in protest at city council plans to cut the wages bill by £50,000.

Police in web of corruption, informant says

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

A web of alleged police corruption in which officers investigated crimes in which they had taken part, and in which one officer tipped off criminals about police surveillance and another passed on police documents to criminals was described, at the Central Criminal Court yesterday by an important informant.

Mr Michael Gervaise said that men connected with a burglary in Birmingham escaped arrest after being warned by the police. He added that some police officers belonged to the same Freemasons' lodge as people involved in the £3m silver bullion robbery in Essex in 1980.

Mr Gervaise, who admitted his part in the robbery and gave information, said two men who received the large reward given after most of the bullion was recovered, were friendly with a police officer who was himself friendly with a man still wanted for the robbery.

Living evidence in a burglary case, Mr Gervaise already told the court earlier this week that he believed a police inquiry was taking place into possible corruption.

Mr Gervaise, who has admitted crimes involving more than £5m and named 41 people to the police, was called as a prosecution witness in the case of Mr John Godwin, aged 40, of Hertfordshire, and Mr Brian Reader, aged 43, of Blackheath, south London, who have pleaded not guilty to burglary charges.

After he arrived in court earlier in the hearing Mr Gervaise was treated as a hostile witness by the prosecution. He said he made statements against Mr Godwin and Mr Reader because he was told to do so by the police.

Under cross-examination he said that he changed his mind because of fears that crimes in which the police had been involved would be revealed and his "supergrass" status would be affected.

On Wednesday, Mr Gervaise said a Detective Insp Derek Ramsey, of Scotland Yard's Robbery Squad had been involved in crimes with him. Yesterday, still under cross-examination, Mr Gervaise alleged that Mr Ramsey and two other officers had been involved in up to 10 crimes in the 1970s.

Questions asked about letter

Mr Gervaise was asked about a letter he had received from Mr Michael Sewell, who is wanted by the police in connection with the silver bullion robbery and an earlier offence, in which Mr Sewell referred to Mr Ramsey and documented earlier. Mr Gervaise said he thought the material would be passed to the two defendants.

Yesterday, Mr Gervaise said he passed on details of his links with Mr Ramsey to Mr Sewell to use because Mr Ramsey was involved in the robbery at Lambeth Town Hall. Pointers to the relationship between the policeman and Mr Gervaise could be found in police records which could be supplied by another officer, Mr Gervaise said. But he would not name the officer.

Mr Timothy Cassel, for the prosecution, asked if he was not worried that Mr Sewell might use the evidence against him after Mr Gervaise had given information against Mr Sewell. Mr Gervaise said he had not been worried.

Cross-examined by Mr Stephen Leslie, for Mr Godwin, Mr Gervaise said he knew nothing about a burglary at Whetstone police station and declined to answer whether he knew "whether" about £25,000 in jewellery taken from the station.



There is a surprise in store for the children, *The Times* of May 1, 1912 recorded, who go to Kensington Gardens to feed the ducks on the morning. Seventy years later the statue of Peter Pan blowing on a pipe with fairies, mice and squirrels all around, may no longer be a surprise for youngsters, but it still proved an attraction for Daniel and Damian Todd, twins aged 3 years. The bronze figure was the work of Sir George Frampton and a May-day gift from Sir James Barrie.

Wife freed after killings

A mother who killed her two young daughters while depressed after her husband had left her walked free from court yesterday.

Mrs Mary Warner, aged 31, an infant teacher, of Tebury Gardens, Nailsea, Avon, had admitted murdering her daughters Victoria, aged six, and Joanne, aged four, with plastic bags after giving them tablets.

Placing her on probation for three years at Bristol Crown Court, Mr Justice Sheldon told her: "I have no doubt this is not a case for punishment, this is a case for help."

Mrs Warner had denied murdering her daughters but admitted their manslaughter by reason of diminished responsibility. The pleas were accepted by Mr Simon Tuckey, QC, for the prosecution.

Mr Tuckey said her husband, Mr Stephen Warner, a Bristol prison officer, left his wife shortly after last Christmas.

On New Year's Eve he told her he did not intend to return and that there was another woman. Mrs Warner committed the offences hours after their conversation Mr Tuckey said.

Inquest on fire victims told of wiring

Three elderly widows died in a fire at a Lancashire nursing home which, although registered for 12 residents, had 23 living there at the time, an inquest was told yesterday.

Experts found that the wrong wire had been used in the electrical system. The blaze was caused by repeated arcing and mechanical damage in the lighting circuit.

Mrs Mary Burns, a state registered nurse, said she was proprietor with her husband of the Northwood Nursing Home, in Blackburn, where Mrs Ada Barnes, aged 86, Mrs Margaret Foot, aged 93, and Mrs Charlotte Boersma, aged 76, died on November 9 last year.

Mrs Burns told Mr George Graham, the coroner, that she had informed the area's social services department about the extra residents by telephone, although not by letter, whereupon an official had visited the home.

Mrs Mary Granger, an assistant at the home at the time, said when the fire alarm sounded, she tried four times to dial the fire brigade but could not get through. She called Miss Lynda Catterall, the matron on an internal line.

Miss Catterall said she helped to supervise the removal of residents to the ground floor. "There was a lot of shouting and screaming," she said.

She and others tried to get into the room where the fire had started but were driven back by smoke.

Mr Roy Burns said the eight-bedroom building was completely rewired when he and his wife took it over in 1978. There were fire detectors in every room and fire alarms, although they were not directly linked to the fire station.

Mr Joseph Wilson, the electrician who rewired the home, said he did not think there were faults in his work. But Mr Herbert Bamford, a forensic scientist, said copper wire had been used incorrectly.

Supt Frank Taylor said no police action would be taken against anyone in connection with the deaths, although proceedings were being considered by Lancashire County Council in respect of the licence.

The coroner, recording verdicts of misadventure, said: "Three old ladies were kept in an attic room. To all intents and purposes they were shut away from the world, and bedfast."

Lords will take on 'sus' law cases

By Frances Gibb

The Metropolitan Police have won leave to appeal to the House of Lords over a High Court ruling that prosecutions brought under the now defunct "sus" law, or section four of the Vagrancy Act, 1824, are illegal.

The police sought leave to appeal to the House of Lords in order, they said, to clarify the law, but were refused. They were then able to seek leave directly from the House of Lords itself, and that has been granted.

In the meantime Mr Simeon remains on unconditional bail, his case adjourned until the police had said they would offer no evidence in the outstanding cases.

Mr Simeon's lawyer, Mr Neville Kesselman, said he was continuing with proceedings for the committal of Mr Crowther for contempt of court. Mr Crowther declined to dismiss the case after the High Court ruling and instead agreed to adjourn it at the request of the lawyers for the Metropolitan Police pending the Lords appeal.

Mr Kesselman said that if the police were not going to prosecute it was wrong to use his client as a device for clarifying the law.

Twelve tomes will bind together Ulster law

From Craig Seton, Belfast

The mighty task of putting together in 12 volumes, totalling nearly 10,000 pages, all the legislation affecting Northern Ireland since 1921 should be completed in the province this year.

Yesterday, the first three volumes of the second edition of *Statutes Revised, Northern Ireland* was presented to Lord Lowry, the province's Lord Chief Justice, by Lord Gormie, Minister of State at the Northern Ireland office.

The 12 volumes will replace the first edition published more than 25 years ago. The new work is costing £500,000 to produce and will cost £750 to buy. It will cover all Acts of Parliament of England, Ireland, Great Britain and the United Kingdom passed before 1921 affecting Northern Ireland; acts of the former Stormont Parliament in the province and measures of the ill-fated Northern Ireland Assembly; and scores of Orders in Council in the House of Commons under direct rule.

The first three volumes cover the period from 1921 to 1963. The new works will not include the text of acts passed by the United Kingdom Parliament after 1920.

The second edition will bring together nearly 1,500 individual items of legislation up to March 1981. The full text is being made available on magnetic tape in the first step towards an electronic data base for law in Northern Ireland, giving the legal profession the considerable advantage of instant retrieval.

Professor Colin Campbell of the Law Faculty at Queens University, Belfast said: "This new edition is a breakthrough. It marks an important start in establishing a data base of Northern Ireland law in computer readable form. It may mean that Northern Ireland will take a lead in using modern technology in the task of tracing and retrieving specific provisions from existing law."

The Statutes Revised, Northern Ireland, Second Edition, (Stationery office £750).

Minister defends drug decision

By Nicholas Timmins

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Health, yesterday defended the Government's decision to over-ride its drug safety advisory body and refuse approval for the long-term use of the injectable contraceptive Depo-Provera.

The drug's manufacturers, meanwhile, said the decision was "a political response to pressure groups", and some doctors who already use the controversial contraceptive long-term on their own responsibility, said they would continue to do so.

The Campaign Against Depo-Provera, which challenges the drug's safety and says it is used of socially deprived and black women without their proper consent, welcomed the decision, although Mr Clarke denied that pressure from lay bodies had influenced the Government.

Upjohn the manufacturer, said: "We deplore the way in which obvious political pressure has over-ruled scientific evidence. Neither society nor the women of the UK are well served by such abuse of a supposedly rational process."

The drug had been used for 20 years in millions of women for long-term contraception and was safe and effective, the company said. It is used in 80 countries, although in the United States approval has been refused.

Mr Clarke said the Government had taken the unprecedented step of rejecting the advice of the Committee on Safety of Medicines because the committee's recommendation had been "very guarded".

The committee recommended that the drug should be used only as a last resort, where all other forms of contraception were unsuitable or their side effects unacceptable, and that it attached four warnings to the long-term use of the drug: that it can be secreted in breast milk, that doctors should check women are not pregnant when it is given, that in monkeys it was 50 times the normal dose tumours had developed (although "the relevance of this to man has not been established"), and that a few cases of breast cancer had been reported (although "no causal relationship has been established").

Mr Clarke said there was no way of enforcing a restriction making it a contraceptive of last resort. The Government believed the possible risks outweighed the benefits, and there was the question of whether informed consent could be given by some of the women for whom it might be used, or the severely mentally ill or mentally handicapped.

Some say it should be used on promiscuous women who keep having abortions. I do not think that would be very popular."

On BBC Radio, Mr Clarke said: "There have been some appalling cases over the last 10 to 20 years of dangerous drugs being used on each individual doctor cannot make a judgment about whether a particular drug is necessarily safe. They rely on the licensing system."

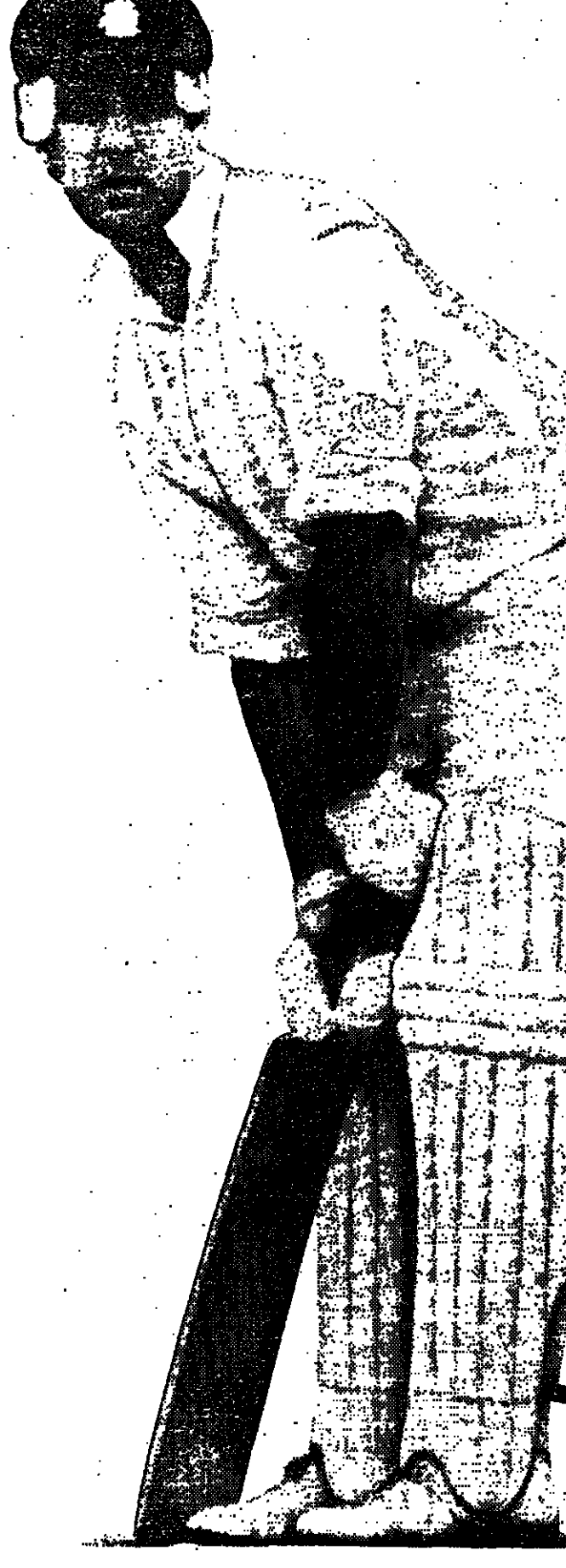
In a Third World country, such as Thailand, where the drug has been widely used, a different judgment might be made.

In Britain, with other forms of contraception available, the benefits offered were small.

Dr Elizabeth Wilson, coordinator of Glasgow's family planning services, said she too would still use it long-term.

Cricket and Money

Mike Brearley takes a stance.



The Empire crumbled. Wars came and went. Men walked on the moon, and the world turned and changed.

But in one field at least, civilisation was upheld.

Cricket was cricket.

Until Mr Packer arrived and turned it into a circus.

Or so the story goes...

It's true that we've seen some pretty bad behaviour in the last few years. Batsmen kicking bowlers, umpires being deliberately knocked over - and far, far worse.

But we almost went to war with the Aussies over the 'bodyline' controversy. Fifty years ago.

And dodging the firecrackers in Karachi and the beer cans in Sydney has never exactly been a picnic.

Has money destroyed cricket? Has it devalued the players' motives?

There are no easy answers.

But Mike Brearley came up with some fascinating conclusions when we commissioned him to write an exclusive article as a run-in to the new season.

You'll find him in our Sports pages tomorrow. In amongst the News, Reviews, Business, the Arts and everything else that makes the Sunday Times compulsive reading for some 4 million people every weekend.

Mike Brearley's only human. Try as he might - and he certainly does - he can't be expected to provide a totally objective opinion.

But you can be sure there's one thing he always observes.

Fair play.

Catch him this Sunday.

Where Ratepayers threaten the Alliance

By David Walker, Local Government Correspondent

LOCAL ELECTIONS

unashamedly local. We invented community politics here 30 or 40 years ago."

The issues are the M25 and its slip roads; local playing fields; sewerage and the apparent concentration of the present Conservative administration in the interests of Romford, where Ratepayers are nothing if not suspicious of council spending.

The association, which links several residents and community organizations in the wards, has 6,500 members, united by newsletter. Mr Ronald Ower, a candidate in the Cranham ward and like many Havering residents a daily commuter into the centre of London, said Ratepayers' candidates have a large personal following.

He and his colleagues are resolutely anti-party. "In local affairs residents know most issues are non-political. Therefore, they speak constructively on the merits of each case, value for money and constant attention to the needs of each ward, in order to keep the environment pleasant and services good."

Havering is a prosperous borough; the estate agent's window by Upminster station has little to offer below £40,000. It is the area to which rising East Enders have moved, and where better-off manual workers from Fords of Dagenham buy their homes. Even Mr Ronald Whitworth, the long-time Labour leader on the council (Labour has 10 seats), allows that the rather conservative characteristics of the borough as a whole.

But his party has plenty of issues and a solid core of support on such council estates as the gigantic development at Harold Hill. Labour protests that younger people in the borough cannot set up home because the Conservative council has been selling off too many houses and not building new homes.

Labour hopes to gain votes over the recent doubling of bus and Tube fares and even Mr Jack Moultrie, the Conservative leader, acknowledges that commuters face "astronomical" prices for their daily journeys. A typist travelling into London could face a bill of £10 to £15 a week.

Havering is entirely new territory for the Alliance.

The Liberals have no seats at present nor much history of success. The Social Democrats' two council seats were donated by Labour and Ratepayer defectors.

But the Alliance has mobilized 55 candidates for the election and according to their coordinator, Mrs Ann Gordon, their canvassing has turned up an encouraging number of people who are "undecided" but open to Alliance persuasion. A target for Alliance propaganda is the "extravagance" of the Conservatives.

That theme turns up, oddly enough, in the literature of all the parties opposing the present administration and focuses on the decision by the Conservatives to build a large leisure complex called the Dolphin Centre in Romford.

For the Tories, the Romford centre is part of a plan to create what their policy statement calls a "borough of opportunity". Mr Moultrie, no Thatcherite, is an old-style municipal Tory who probably gets much pleasure from building and doing things. He lauds his party's achievement in planting thousands of trees and reclaiming marshes in Rainham. To him, the SDP-Liberal Alliance has no policies and the Labour Party is "almost Communist".

FALKLANDS CRISIS

Americans may help British with equipment

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

British defence chiefs are expected to confer with the Americans this weekend over possible transatlantic help for the Falklands task force.

So far Britain has drawn heavily, though covertly, on United States intelligence services and on a variety of United States facilities at Ascension Island — the halfway supply base for ships steaming south.

Now the Ministry of Defence might even consider borrowing American equipment to supplement British stocks which were not built up with the present crisis in mind.

The United States Marine Corps, for instance, has over 100 Harrier helicopters which could be "loaned" in an emergency, assuming the marines can part with some.

These Harriers, like those in service with the RAF, are not fitted out for the air defence role practised by Sea Harriers on the task force's two aircraft carriers. But like a number of RAF aircraft which are now on their way to the South Atlantic, they could be adapted.

Hercules C130 transport aircraft are among other items of equipment common to both countries — and so are a number of other weapons.

like the Sea King helicopter and the Sidewinder missile which is not in service with British forces would involve re-training, which would take too long. Sources last night, however, explained that they had first to discover what kind of aid the Americans had in mind, and what facilities the task force commander, Rear Admiral John Woodward, needed most.

Would the Americans for instance be prepared to let British warships and auxiliaries use American supply vessels, including oilers at sea?

One source, while welcoming the diplomatic and psychological boost to Britain's Falklands campaign, had to admit that he could not think of anything which the task force badly lacked. By now a supply line has more or less been established to keep the front-line ships well stocked with fuel, food and ammunition.

What Admiral Woodward would really appreciate from the Americans is the use of an operating base which is nearer than Ascension Island and more congenial than South Georgia.

Task force poised

All quiet in the MEZ, ministry reports

By Our Defence Correspondent

The military situation remained uncertain and the atmosphere tense last night after Britain and Argentina imposed mutually exclusive zones around the Falkland Islands and threatened each other's ships and aircraft which intruded.

Some Argentine warships which have been patrolling their country's long coastline for the past two weeks were said to have moved to a position off Rio Grande, close to the outer limits of the 200-mile zone.

The Ministry of Defence, whose own task force is now presumed to be inside the zone, reported however no breaches of it by either Argentine warships or aircraft.

Britain for its part would seem to have refrained from bombing the 4,000-foot runway at Port Stanley — one of the early options open to the Government in its policy of sealing off the Argentine garrison.

In South Georgia, the white ensign was lowered to half-mast for the funeral of the Argentine prisoner who died in what the ministry will describe only as a "serious incident" last Monday.

Argentine sources have named him as Chief Petty Officer Felix Oscar Artuso and there are reports that he was shot. But the ministry, while confirming that his name was Artuso, are awaiting the results of a board of inquiry before giving further details. Other Argentine prisoners are among those giving evidence to the inquiry.

He was buried with full military honours at the ceremony in the tiny cemetery at Grytviken. The distance and the circumstances had prevented any

consultation with his next of kin about his burial. In Britain, where preparations continued for augmenting the task force and broadening the ministry's options, unofficial sources disclosed that no contingency plans to deal with an invasion of the Falklands had existed. That the task force had been assembled and dispatched within days, was a sublime example of British staff work.

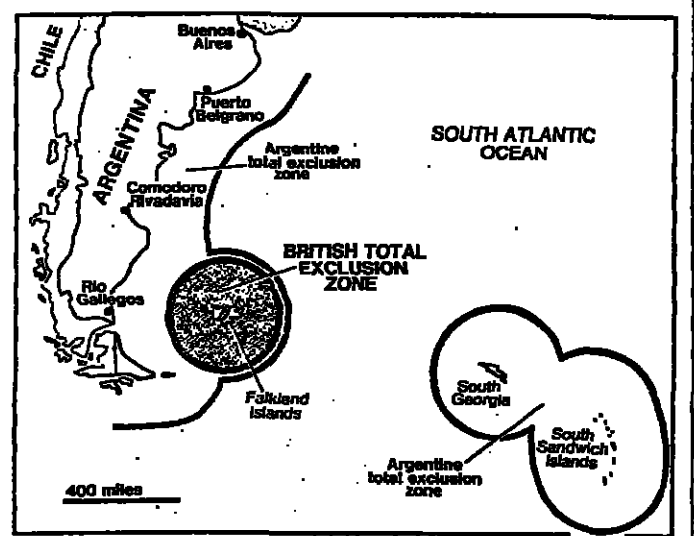
The latest preparations include imminent in-flight refuelling trials for Nimrod maritime patrol and Hercules transport aircraft at the Boscombe Down experimental establishment.

A number of both types have been fitted with refuelling systems which, in the case of the Hercules will significantly increase its present range of between 2,500 and 4,600 miles depending upon whether it is carrying 45,000 or 20,000 pounds.

The 3,000-ton British Telecom cable ship Iris, which will be used for ferrying stores around the task force, left Devonport for the South Atlantic.

Meanwhile Prince Charles, who is Colonel of the Welsh Guards, confirmed that the ministry has so far declined to do, that the 1st Battalion have been training in Wales with a possible excursion to the Falklands in mind.

He told the guards at a ceremony in which they received the freedom of Carmarthen: "The arduous training in the Welsh hills was to prepare for possible deployment in the South Atlantic. I am sure the people of Carmarthen would want to join me in wishing them well."



Junta to buy Brazilian anti-submarine planes

Sao Paulo, April 30 — Brazil said today that it was negotiating the sale of maritime patrol and submarine tracker aircraft to Argentina, which would significantly increase its capacity to trace British submarines operating in the South Atlantic.

"We are negotiating these planes with Argentina. That is all I am allowed to say," Senhor Paulo Lutz, spokesman for the government-run Embraer company, which builds the EMB111 twin-engine maritime patrol aircraft.

The Brazilian Air Force confirmed the negotiations and said that there could be more news this afternoon.

The EMB111 is a military version of the 18-seat civilian Bandeirante

developed by Brazil. In its maritime patrol version it has a range of up to 7,000 miles and can carry advanced radar and electronic submarine detection equipment, together with a light load of missiles and bombs.

Brazilian military analysts said it would "significantly increase" Argentina's capacity to trace British submarines operating in the South Atlantic.

An Air Force spokesman said it was virtually certain that EMB111 aircraft sold to Argentina would be new ones, but another spokesman said it was not impossible that the Brazilian Air Force would take some of the 12 aircraft it now has and make them available to Argentina on a rush basis. — UPI.

How Haig announced backing for Britain

Washington, April 30. — The following is the text of the statement by Mr Alexander Haig the American Secretary of State.

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen, the South Atlantic crisis is about to enter a new and dangerous phase in which large-scale military action is likely. I would like to bring you up to date.

We have made a determined effort to restore peace through implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 502. This resolution calls for an end to hostilities, the withdrawal of Argentine forces from the islands and a diplomatic settlement.

The United States made this extraordinary effort because the stakes in human lives and international order require it.

From the outset, the United States has been guided by the basic principle of the rule of law and the peaceful settlement of disputes. The collapse of that principle could only bring chaos and suffering.

We also made this effort because the crisis raised the vital issue of hemispheric solidarity at a time when the Communist adversary seeks positions of influence on the mainland of the Americas and latent territorial disputes called for unity and the resolute defence of principle.

We acted as well because the United States has the confidence of the parties. The United Kingdom is our closest ally, and Prime Minister Thatcher's Government looked to pursue a peaceful solution. We have also recently developed a better relationship with Argentina as part of our success in revitalizing the community of American states. President Galtieri also requested our involvement.

Under the direction of President Reagan, I participated in many days of intense discussions with the parties in search of a framework for implementing UN Security Council Resolution 502.

Our initial aim was to clarify the positions of the parties and suggest how those positions might be reconciled.

As the prospects for more intense hostilities arose, we put forth an American proposal. It represented our best estimate of what the two parties could reasonably be expected to accept and was based squarely on our own principles and concerns for the rule of law.

We regard this as a fair and a sound proposal. It involves: a cessation of hostilities; withdrawal of both Argentine and British Forces; termination of sanctions; establishment of a United States-United Kingdom-Argentina interim authority to maintain the agreement; continuation of the traditional local administration with Argentine participation; procedures for encouraging cooperation in the development of the islands and a framework for negotiation on final settlement.

We had reason to hope that the United Kingdom would consider a settlement along the lines of our proposal. But Argentina informed us yesterday that it could not accept it.

Argentina's position remains that it must receive an assurance now of eventual sovereignty or an immediate *de facto* role in governing the islands which would lead to sovereignty.

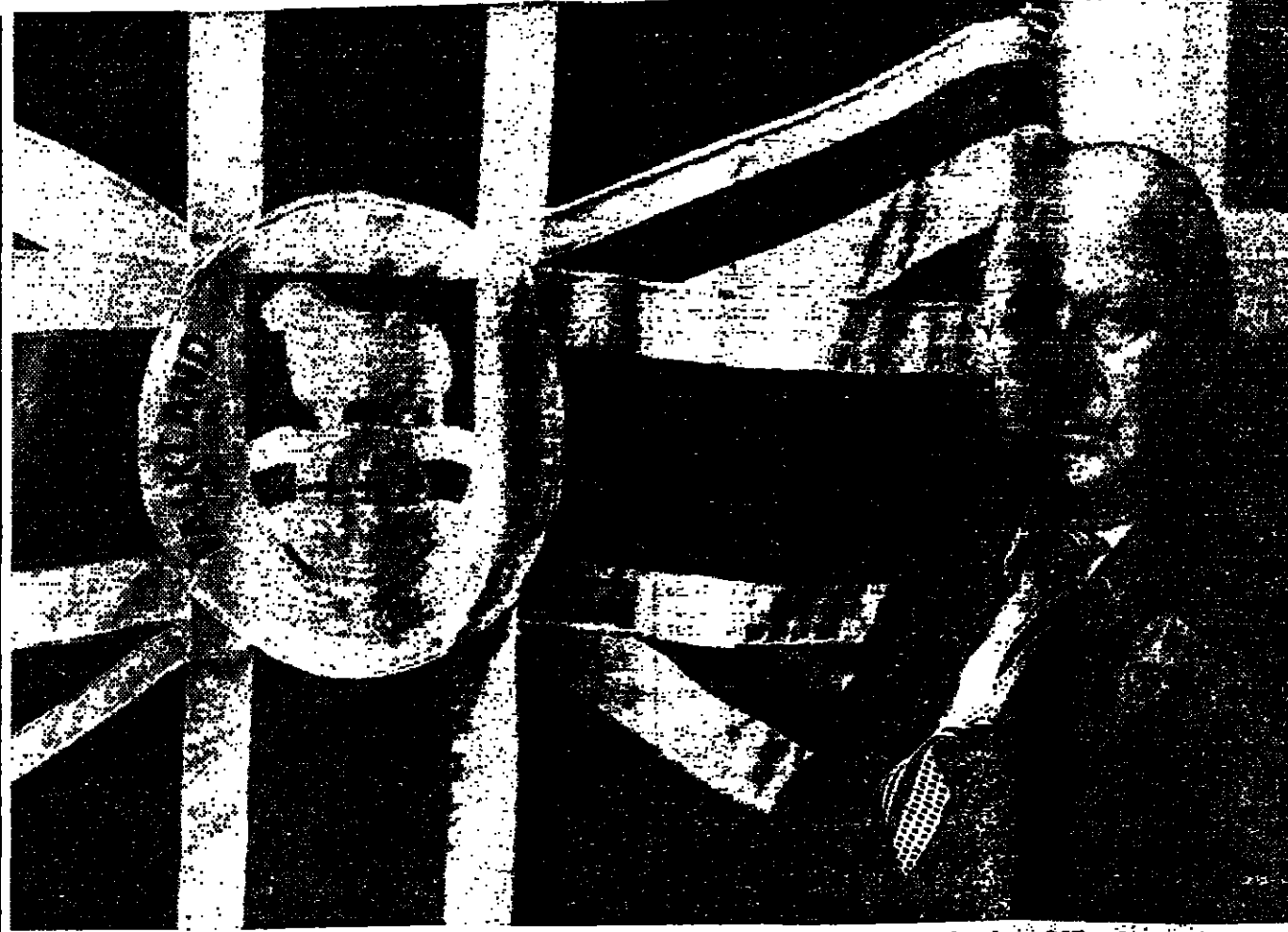
For its part, the British Government has continued to affirm the need to respect the views of the inhabitants in any settlement. The United States has thus far refrained from adopting measures in response to the seizure of the islands that could have interfered with our ability to work with both sides in the search for peace.

The British Government has shown complete understanding for this position. Now, however, in light of Argentina's failure to accept a compromise, we must take steps to underscore that the United States cannot and will not condone the use of unlawful force to resolve disputes.

The President has therefore ordered the suspension of all military exports to Argentina, the withholding of certification of Argentine eligibility for military sales, the suspension of new export-import bank credits and guarantees and the suspension of commodity credit corporation guarantees.

The President also directed that the United States will respond positively for requests for material support for British forces. There will, of course, be no direct United States military involvement. American policy will continue to be guided by our concern for the rule of law and our desire to facilitate an early and fair settlement.

The United States remains ready to assist the parties in finding that settlement. A strictly military outcome cannot endure over time. In the end there will have to be a negotiated outcome acceptable to the interested parties. Otherwise, we will all face unending hostility and insecurity in the South Atlantic.



Flying the flag: Air Commodore Brian Frow, Director of the Falkland Islanders Office in London.

Argentina's foreign debt Repayments keep rolling in

New York, April 30. — Argentina is continuing to make prompt repayments on its foreign debts, except to banks in Britain according to international bankers here. Argentina has a total foreign debt of \$34,000m (£18,000m) including about \$21,000m borrowed by the Government.

The Argentine Government, which has said it needs another \$3,000m this year just to meet interest payments, apparently wants to demonstrate its readiness to meet foreign obligations. International bankers have, however, shown reluctance to grant fresh credits to Argentina, as they assess the impact of the crisis on an economy hit by high inflation and the trade embargo imposed by the European Community and some Commonwealth nations.

Britain has also frozen Argentine assets worth an estimated \$1,400m. Buenos Aires has reciprocated, and stopped debt repayments to London.

New York bankers expressed heightened concern about the Argentine economy, particularly about the

prospects for the austerity programme introduced by Senator Roberto Alemann, the Economy Minister, as well as the impact of the EEC ban on imports from Argentina.

They added that American banks, owed about \$9,000m were not making new loans to Argentina, though Buenos Aires was being given more time to make repayments on some existing short-term credits.

The agencies of a number of syndicated loans, previously held by banks in London, have been transferred to other financial centres, such as New York and Luxembourg, to facilitate repayments, the said.

The bankers said, however, that at least two British banks had kept their agencies in London, and they thought that Argentina was making repayments directly to other members of the syndicate.

Earlier this week senior European bankers in Luxembourg reported growing strains in the international financial community over demands by London institutions for a share of these repayments. — Reuters.

Reports from Luxembourg

said that London banks were making the demands on the grounds that most loan agreements required repayments to be shared out in proportion to the funds put up by each member of a lending consortium.

American bankers in New York did not confirm that they had received any demands from London, but they expected syndicate members to agree to share out payments. Some foreign bankers said, however, that their initial reaction would be not to agree to such demands.

They noted that Argentina had said that it was paying money owed to London into a blocked account at the New York branch of the Banco de la Nacion Argentina. Officials there said that money was flowing into the account, but declined to say how much had been deposited.

The foreign bankers also said that Britain's freeze on Argentine assets put London banks in a better position than institutions in other countries to attach or claim these holdings if the situation deteriorated. — Reuters.

Canadians 'very close' to Britain

Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, said today that Canada was "very close" to Britain's position on the Falkland Islands but hinted that it would oppose a military solution (John Best writes from Ottawa). He was responding to a press conference questioner, who had suggested that Canada did not support Britain "one hundred per cent."

"We say the sovereignty question remains to be settled," he said. "The British say, and we say, that problems of sovereignty must not be resolved by resort to force." He added that any party that attempted to resolve the Falklands issue by force "will have our condemnation, obviously."

On your bike

Argentina has prepared a squad of motor cycle troops to head off any British attempt to land in the Falkland Islands at a remote spot. Argentine television showed the motor cycles being unloaded from a Hercules C-130 transport aircraft. The islands have only 60 miles of paved roads, and even four-wheel drive and tracked vehicles have difficulty moving over soft bogland and heath that

Hanoi's view

Vietnam announced its support for Argentina's seizure of the Falklands, citing resolutions on decolonization passed at the United Nations and non-aligned movement. It condemned Britain's attempt to regain the islands as an "act of colonialism."

Ulster advice

A medical officer on a hospital ship with the task force has asked a Belfast consultant for advice on the treatment of certain "war wounds" which have become commonplace in Northern Ireland. A health spokesman in Belfast confirmed the exchange but details were not revealed.

Visit called off

The Falklands dispute has caused its first diplomatic casualty in South-East Asia with the postponement of a visit to Britain by the Sultan of Brunei.

Britain seeks advice on Swedish request

By David Cross

A Swedish Government request for permission to interrogate one of the Argentine prisoners about the shooting of a Swedish girl in Buenos Aires five years ago has presented the British Government with a difficult and embarrassing problem.

The teenage girl, Miss Dagmar Hagelin, was last heard of in 1973 when she was reported to be in prison, lame and handcuffed to a bed. She was last seen by independent witnesses the year before when she was allegedly shot in the back as she tried to escape from an Argentine death squad.

According to the witnesses, the shots were fired by Captain Alfredo Astiz, who was in charge of Argentina's garrison in South Georgia until he was captured by British troops last weekend. He was then wound and died on board one of Britain's battleships in the South Atlantic.

Captain Astiz has been described by Spanish newspapers as "The Executioner" for his alleged role as head of a camp where many opponents of the Argentine government were being held. Thousands of left-wing Argentines disappeared.

A Foreign Office spokesman, who said yesterday that



Miss Hagelin: last seen in 1973

the Swedish request for access to the prisoner was under consideration, explained that the question raised "legal complications."

Under the terms of the Geneva Convention, prisoners captured during a war or other hostilities have to be treated with great care. They are, for example, allowed only to disclose brief details like their name and number. The spokesman said that Britain would adhere scrupulously to the Geneva Convention.

Healey hits out at Livingstone

Mr Denis Healey, the Deputy Leader of the Labour Party yesterday attacked Mr Kenneth Livingstone, the Leader of the Greater London Council, over an article saying that the Argentines had a perfect right to stay in possession of the Falkland Islands. It was published in *Labour Herald*, which Mr Livingstone edits jointly with Mr Ted Knight, leader of the Lambeth Council, and Mr Martin Warburton.

Criticising Mr Livingstone for publishing the article, Mr Healey told the *Feunby Workers' Conference* in Blackpool: "To have done that six days before a critical local election almost beggars belief."

Mr Healey said that if Mr Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State, "packed his hand in" as a go-between, it could be to Britain's advantage as there would then be an excuse for the American Administration not imposing economic sanctions on Argentina. This might be enough to force Argentina to make out its strong, and start negotiations.

Mr Healey urged Mrs Margaret Thatcher to be the first to seek United Nations mediation, and said he was glad Mr Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, had not ruled this out.

□ The Welsh TUC, voted for the withdrawal "without delay" of the British naval task force, and the suspension of the exclusion zone around the Falkland Islands (The Jones writes from Llanidloes). Only three of the 400 delegates voted against the motion, which also called for the withdrawal of Argentine troops, and a peaceful settlement through the United Nations.

□ Mrs Shridath Ramphal, Secretary-General of the Commonwealth Secretariat, has come out in favour of the British government's tough approach to the Falklands crisis (David Cross writes).

In a speech to a United Nations disarmament meeting in London earlier this week, Mr Ramphal said that Britain, in making a firm and unambiguous response to Argentine aggression, was "rendering a service to the international community as a whole."

Telex cut

AFP telex and telegram communications with the Falkland Islands ceased last night according to British Telecom. There has been no telephone contact with the islands since April 2. Telephone and telex links with Argentina were still open.

Four rules for press to censor itself

From Christopher Thomas, Buenos Aires, April 30

Argentina introduced measures to control foreign and local media today "for reasons of national security." The authorities warned anybody violating the rules that they would be liable to indefinite imprisonment.

The measure was published as a decree in the Official Bulletin this morning and took immediate effect. The Joint Chiefs of Staff of the armed forces summoned the editors of local newspapers and foreign and local wire services to their offices last night to announce the regulations, which were said to be necessary "due to the near state of war in the country."

There was no immediate indication of how news and information would be screened. Several hundred foreign correspondents in Buenos Aires received no direct approach today or encountered any difficulty filing stories.

The editors were told to practise "self-censorship" so that press censorship and other restrictions are not necessary. They were warned that sanctions would be imposed if they published news which could "damage the moral of the population."

Article 1 of the decrees stated: "All information and news coming from abroad and all information related to military operations and national security is subject to the control of the Joint Chiefs of Staff prior to its publication or broadcast by the media."

Article 2 states: "The Joint Chiefs of Staff will use the appropriate means and measures to enforce the decree."

Article 3 states: "All media directors or editors are personally and directly responsible for any violation of the decree."

Article 4 states: "Any media violation of the decree will be closed down and the editor or directors placed under arrest and at the disposal of the executive branch for undetermined length of time, notwithstanding other civil or penal sanctions which could be taken against him/her."

One of the three British journalists being held on espionage charges in Ushuaia told a local news agency: "If we were spies, we would be the worst ones in the world" (UPI reports).

Nocturnal Argentines, a private news agency, quoted Simon Winchester of *The Sunday Times* as saying: "We are in a state of anguish and uncertainty over our future."

Winchester, Ian Mather and Mr Tony Prime of *The Observer* have been held in Ushuaia, 2,225 miles south of Buenos Aires, since being detained two weeks ago near an airbase in the area and charged with espionage.

"Both myself and my colleagues hope to win our freedom," Mr Winchester said. Defence lawyers will appeal against an order that they be held under arrest pending trial at the federal court in Comodoro Rivadavia.

Mr Winchester said: "The three men, who are now being held at Ushuaia, will spend the day playing ping-pong, reading and listening to the radio. He claimed that the espionage charges against them were ridiculous. At no time did the three attempt to hide their movements, nor did they gather any information that would not be available in specialized military publications on newstands in Buenos Aires. He and the two other journalists are treated well by the Argentine authorities."

Correction

In the report: "Home backs force as a last resort" on page 6 yesterday, the word "military" was incorrect. The opening sentence should have read: "Military force is morally legitimate as a last resort in the circumstances of the Falkland Islands crisis." Cardinal Hume states in an article published today.

Subjects who may never be citizens

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Four hundred or more Falkland Islanders and supporters in the United Kingdom, earnestly request that Mrs Thatcher and her Government reconsider the terms of the British Nationality Bill in order to accord full British citizenship to all Islanders of British descent.

The Falklands Islanders Office, pressing their case, said the act conferred second-class citizenship on several hundred Falkland Islanders who did not have grand parents born in the United Kingdom but whose pure British nationality extended unbroken since the early nineteenth century.

An amendment to the Bill seeking to carry out the Islanders' wishes was moved by Lady Vickers in the House of Lords on October 7. She said: "The people there have been connected with the islands for up to 20 many as six generations. They are all descended from people who were English, Irish, Welsh or Scottish."

Lord Hunt pointed out that, of all the 17 British dependent territories listed, there was only one whose inhabitants were incontestably all of British stock, the Falkland Islands.

The amendment was opposed by Lord Trefgarne, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, who said it would allow transmission of British citizenship indefinitely through the generations, something not enjoyed by British citizens in any other dependency or country.

If accepted, the amendment would lead to great bitterness and resentment in other dependent territories, resulting in pressure for concessions which if met, would jeopardise the basis of the Bill. The amendment was declared lost after 90 votes voted for it and 90 against. No amendment can be made unless there is a majority in favour.

Lord Trefgarne explained: "It is no mark of inferiority that citizenship of the British dependent Territories does not carry the right of abode

in the UK, any more than that British citizens will not have the right of abode in the dependent territories."

But the Falklands are not in the position of Gibraltar. Despite government opposition, an amendment was passed which gave people from Gibraltar an entitlement to British citizenship on application. It is now official falls within the Treaty of Rome for the free movement of labour. Its people have the right of British nationals, for the purposes, to enter the United Kingdom, to seek and take up employment.

Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, said in a written parliamentary answer on April 8 that he had made it clear that in the present circumstances no Falkland Islander, whether he had right of abode or not, could have any difficulty in admission to Britain. Falklanders would be admitted for settlement, and there would thus be no restriction on their taking employment.

Four rules for press to censor itself

Iranians cross Karun in second offensive

From Robert Fisk, Beirut, April 30

Iran appears to have followed up its victories over the Iraqi Army in Khuzestan with advances on the southern front across the Karun River near Abadan.

The Iranian military command claimed this afternoon that its troops had crossed the Karun, captured an important highway — presumably the main Abadan-Ahvaz road — and taken more than 1,000 Iraqi prisoners.

The Iranian attack came as no surprise. Ever since they recaptured several hundred square miles of their own territory from the Iraqis west of Dezful on the central sector of the war front, the Iranians have boasted that they would soon mount a second offensive to retake their ruined port of Khorramshahr, which fell to the Iraqis 18 months ago.

The Iraqis — true to the contradictory claims for which the Gulf War has become famous — acknowledged that the attack had occurred, but insisted that their own forces had counter-

attacked and that "enemy bodies litter the battlefield".

What is clear from all this is that the Iranians are fulfilling their promise to carry on the war against President Saddam Hussein's Iraqi Army until it has been pushed right back to the Iranian frontier which it first crossed in September, 1980.

The original battle of the most costly engagements in the early months of the war, as Iraqi troops fought their way into Khorramshahr and brought their tanks across the river on Russian-made pontoon bridges.



Shortly afterwards, however, they were driven from the western banks and the bridges were destroyed. The front line around Abadan had then remained static until this new Iranian attack.

According to a military communiqué issued in Baghdad, Iraqi jets bombed and strafed Iranian troops during the offensive, killing at least 2,000, of whom 500 died in tank and infantry battles. The Iraqis say they shot down five Iraqi jets; the Iraqis claim that they have destroyed an Iranian fighter aircraft and four rocket-firing helicopters.

This afternoon, Baghdad radio quoted an anonymous Iraqi Army officer as saying that "our forces have turned back the enemy onslaught and are teaching him an unforgettable lesson".

Given the course of the Gulf War over the past few months, however, it is President Hussein's regime which is still being educated by the Iranians in the principles of desert warfare.

Tindemans in Kuwait for talks on peace

Kuwait, April 30 — Mr Leo Tindemans, the Belgian Foreign Minister and President of the EEC Council of Ministers, arrived in Kuwait today as part of Europe's effort to help to achieve peace in the Middle East after Israel's withdrawal from Sinai.

He said he was carrying no proposals but wanted to evaluate the situation and report to the EEC Council. "The Council will then see whether the time is suitable to put forth fresh proposals", he said.

No talks are scheduled for today but tomorrow Mr Tindemans will meet Sheikh Jaber al-Ahmed al-Sabah, the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Saad al-Abdullah al-Sabah, the Prime Minister, and Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmed al-Sabah, the Foreign Minister.

Foreign Ministry officials said the talks would centre on the Middle East crisis, the Palestinian issue and the Israeli threat to Lebanon.

They would also discuss possible resumption of Arab-European dialogue, suspended nearly a year ago mainly because of Europe's insistence that the question of higher oil prices should also be on the agenda, and Arab opposition to European participation in the multinational peace-keeping force in Sinai.

The officials said Kuwaiti leaders would reemphasize their position that Europe should play a leading role independent of the United States in solving the Middle East conflict, based on total Israeli withdrawal and the setting up of an independent Palestinian state.

Kuwait has backed a peace plan proposed by Prince Fahd of Saudi Arabia last August. The plan, which implicitly recognises Israel, has been regarded as an alternative to the Camp David agreements which has been condemned by most Arabs.

There have been a number of EEC fact-finding visits to the Middle East since Europe offered its help in achieving peace at a conference in Venice in June 1980.

Mr Tindemans is due to fly to Saudi Arabia tomorrow evening for a one-day visit before going to Egypt and Israel.

He said that a meeting with Mr Yasir Arafat would be included in the agenda. Mr Arafat was in Saudi Arabia yesterday and met King Khalid. — Reuters.

Pakistan bars EEC mission headed by Jew

From Hasan Akhtar, Islamabad, April 29

Pakistan today rejected a protest by the Belgian Ambassador on behalf of the EEC against Pakistan's refusal to receive a European parliamentary delegation headed by M Gerard Israel, a French MEP. The delegation was to have visited Afghan refugee camps.

An official statement said Pakistan had informed the European Parliament on March 18 that the inclusion of M Israel would be misunderstood. He was described as the Deputy General Secretary of the Universal Israelite Alliance.

"Because of the strong feelings of the people of Pakistan and of the Afghan refugees on the question of Israel and anything connected with it, the inclusion of M Gerard Israel in the delegation was not desirable," the statement continued.

"Under the circumstances, the visit of the European parliamentary delegation as it was constituted was still less desirable. Pakistan would urge that a sense of political realism should inform the reaction of the European Parliament and that of the Council of Ministers of the EEC."

Lebanon land mine threatens ceasefire

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, April 30

The increasingly fragile ceasefire between Israel and the Palestinians came under a new threat today, after an Israeli soldier was wounded when his vehicle hit a land mine in the South Lebanese border enclave controlled by the militia forces of Major Saad Haddad.

A communiqué issued by the Israeli military command gave no immediate hint of the wounded man's condition. But it stated categorically that the mine had been planted by Palestinian terrorists who had infiltrated into the region.

Only last week, a similar incident in which an Israeli soldier was killed in southern Lebanon, and another was injured, prompted Israel to launch its first air raids into Lebanon since the American negotiated ceasefire came into effect on July 24 last year.

About 20 Palestinians were killed in the raids, with scores more wounded. At the time, there were threats of Palestinian retaliation, but these did not materialise, in view of Israel's declared intention to hit back even harder against any new attack.

Last week, Israeli ministers and military commanders made it clear that Israel regarded the ceasefire as applying as much to the Christian border enclave as to Israel itself. It was claimed that the enclave had been specifically included in last July's agreement.

Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, gave a warning in a series of interviews, recorded to coincide with the thirty-fourth anniversary of Israeli independence, on Wednesday, that the ceasefire would only last if the Palestinians halted all attacks on Israeli targets. "If the terrorists keep the peace, so will Israel," he said.

Tonight, diplomats were braced for possible Israeli retaliation for the latest land mine ambush, though there was uncertainty as to its form or timing. The most common view was that it had further strengthened the

likelihood of more Israeli military activity inside Lebanon in the near future.

Military sources have explained that Israeli soldiers were inside the enclave to train the militia men. But the United Nations has repeatedly reported in recent months that large-scale Israeli troop movements have been noted inside the 60-mile long territory controlled by Major Haddad and his forces, who are financed, clothed and armed by Israel.

In his recent interviews Mr Begin said that Israel would consider entering Lebanon, "to destroy the terrorists' aggressive potential" if there was any renewed shelling of Israel. He also said that Israel would hit back with more force than last week's massive air raids if there were any more Palestinian breaches of the ceasefire.

Before news of today's explosion was released, Major-General Joshua Saguy, the head of Israeli military intelligence told Israel radio that Syria now regarded a military confrontation with Israel as inevitable and had been making preparations for it over the last few months.

In a separate development, the chief of Israel's Central Command, Major-General Uri Orr, issued orders removing the elected Palestinian Mayor of the West Bank town of Anabta, Mr Wahid Hamdallah, from his post. He was the fourth Arab mayor dismissed by the Israelis in recent months.

An official statement cited Mr Hamdallah's recent conviction in a military court on charges of violating town street orders and possessing illegal literature, as reasons for his dismissal.

□ Tel Aviv: Mr Aharon Abuhazera, the Minister of Labour, Welfare and Immigrant Absorption, who received a suspended prison sentence last week for larceny and breach of trust, submitted his formal letter of resignation to the Prime Minister's office today (Moshe Brilliant writes). It will go into effect in 48 hours unless rescinded.



Space firsts: Two astronauts, Sally Ride and Guion Bluford, will make history next year when she becomes the first woman in space on Shuttle 7 and he becomes the first black in space on Shuttle 8.

Jobs scheme rejected

From Our Own Correspondent, Bonn, April 30

The Christian Democratic-dominated Bundestag, the upper house of Parliament, today rejected the Government's job-creation Bill, opening the way for fresh conflicts between the coalition parties about how to finance it.

The scheme, which was agreed on with great difficulty by the ruling Social Democrats and Free Democrats, failed because the Christian Democrats objected to bringing forward an in-



Respite from terror: Gunmen holding 27 hostages on board an airliner at Teguchigalpa allowed the pilot's three children to visit him, and modified their demands three times, but were unable to persuade the Honduras Government to promise any more than to fly them out of the country.

Scourge of Mafia shot dead in Sicily

From John Earle, Rome, April 30

Signor Pio La Torre, the secretary of the Communist Party in Sicily and member of the Italian Parliament, was shot dead in a Mafia-style killing today as he drove to the local party headquarters in the centre of Palermo. His driver, Signor Rosario de Salvo, was also shot dead.

Witnesses said their car was forced to stop by a large motor cycle, then another car with four men drew alongside and opened fire. Signor de Salvo had time to fire four shots before he and Signor La Torre were killed at point blank range.

The motor cycle was abandoned at the spot, while the gunmen's car was later found burnt out a few hundred yards away.

Signor La Torre, aged 55, was a prominent member of a parliament in inquiry into the Mafia. His death brought immediate statements of condemnation from President Sandro Pertini and the leaders of all political parties.

Senator Giovanni Spadolini, the Prime Minister, summoned for consultations General Carlo Alberto dalla Chiesa, the new Prefect of Palermo, who was attending an Army ceremony near Milan.

General dalla Chiesa, who has played a leading role in combating left-wing terrorism in the north, is to take up his new post at the weekend with a brief from the Government to clamp down on the Mafia and its drug traffic with the United States.

Though Palermo has been relatively quiet in the past year, the city authorities say there were only 101 killings in 1981, compared to more than one a day in Naples — the murder of Signor La Torre is the latest in a long series of such crimes.

The most prominent victim was Signor Piersanti Mattarella, the Christian Democratic, president of the Regional Council, who died in January 1980. Other Mafia victims in the last three years include the Palermo chief public prosecutor, the chief of the police flying squad, the provincial secretary of the Christian Democrats, and the captain of the Carabinieri investigating drug links.

Even so, Signor La Torre was the first serving member of the Italian Parliament to be assassinated since Signor Aldo Moro, the Christian Democrat, was murdered in 1978 by a Red Brigades group whose alleged members are now standing trial.

Election in El Salvador Independent chosen as new President

San Salvador, April 30 — Señor Alvaro Magaña, aged 57, a banker, has been chosen by the Constituent Assembly as El Salvador's new president. He is a political independent and succeeds Señor José Napoleón Duarte, a Christian Democrat. He will be sworn in on Sunday.

Señor Magaña's election yesterday came a month after Salvadorans went to the polls amid guerrilla gunfire to elect the Constituent Assembly. A move supported by the United States as a first step to ending a civil war in which 40,000 people have died in the past two-and-a-half years.

Señor Magaña is believed to have close links with the military, but he says he is also a friend of Señor Guillermo Manuel Ungo, leader of a left-wing opposition front allied with guerrillas.

The new president's votes came from all 24 Christian Democrats, the largest single party in the assembly, and from 12 of the 14 assembly members of the National Conciliation Party (PCN).

The candidate with the second biggest vote was Señor Hugo Barrera, a deputy of the far right National Republican Alliance (Arena), who won 17 Arena votes.

One of two Arena deputies who abstained from the voting was Major Roberto d'Aubisson, the party leader, who was elected Assembly President last week by 36 right-wing deputies despite the opposition of the 24 Christian Democrats.

The assembly also elected three vice-presidents, representing the major parties. They are Señor Raul Molina Martínez, PCN secretary-general; Señor Gabriel Mauricio Gutiérrez Castro, a lawyer and Arena member; and Señor Pablo Mauricio Alvergue, a Christian Democrat, now Minister of the Presidency.

Señor Magaña has for the past 17 years headed the Mortgage Bank, El Salvador's biggest financial institution and the only bank with state participation before all banks were nationalized in 1980. The United States embassy here regards him as a capable administrator.

His political past makes it difficult to predict his attitude to the American-backed agrarian reforms instituted two years ago.

But his power will be limited by the Constituent Assembly, which has voted itself extraordinary powers, including those of writing a constitution, making legislation and vetoing the president's ministerial appointments. — Reuter.

Señor Magaña's victory over Arena party

Rebuke for Kyprianou over Cyprus deal

From Mario Modiano, Athens, April 30

The Greek government has publicly rebuked President Kyprianou of Cyprus for making a political alliance with the communist party, who were elected Assembly members on terms that could jeopardize the agreed Athens-Nicosia strategy on the Cyprus question.

At the same time Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Socialist Prime Minister, was reported to have sent a personal letter to Mr Kyprianou yesterday reprimanding him for his deal with the communist party, Akel.

An official statement in Athens said that while the Greek Government did not wish to interfere in the internal affairs of Cyprus, it could hardly endorse the Kyprianou-Akel alliance in so far as it affected the handling of the Cyprus issue.

According to the pro-government newspaper Vima, Mr Papandreu's letter protested that by endorsing Akel's unreserved support for the Cyprus intercommunal talks, the Cypriot President was "torpedoing" the agreed worldwide campaign launched by Athens for the internationalization of the Cyprus problem.

The newspaper said the Greek Prime Minister objected to the alliance on the ground that the President of Cyprus should represent all Cypriots, not just the Greek community, as if to add insult to injury, reassured the Cypriot people directly that it could count on its firm and constant support and solidarity.

Kaunda's summit described as useful

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg, April 30

More than three hours of talks today between Mr P. W. Botha, the South African Prime Minister, and President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia were described in a joint statement as "useful".

The statement issued after the meeting, held in a caravan in no man's land straddling the border between South Africa and Botswana, said the two men had "a frank exchange of views on the situation in Southern Africa in their search for a peaceful solution to the problems of the area. The issues covered were those of Namibia and South Africa. Both leaders found the exchange useful".

After the meeting, President Kaunda and his entourage left immediately for Gaborone, the Botswana capital, where their aircraft was waiting to fly them back to Lusaka. Mr Botha boarded a helicopter with Mr R. F. Botha, the Foreign Minister, and Mr Magnus Malan, the Defence Minister, on the first leg of their journey back to Cape Town.

The outcome of the meeting and whether, in fact, anything useful has come from it will be reported to the full South African Cabinet on Tuesday.

It was Mr Botha's first meeting face to face with a leader of a black African state since he became Prime Minister three years ago. The meeting was at President Kaunda's instigation.

Dr Kaunda met Mr Botha's predecessor, Mr John Vorster, in a railway carriage straddling the Victoria Falls Bridge on the Rhodesian-Zambian border in 1975 in an effort to end that war.

When Dr Kaunda announced his invitation to Mr Botha for talks, he said he urgently wanted to discuss the war in South-West Africa (Namibia) and the "explosive" situation in South Africa.

On Thursday night, Mr Botha addressed a political meeting in Pietersburg in northern Transvaal. It is a stronghold of his right-wing supporters. Dr Andries Treurnicht, who has formed a breakaway party of 17 National Party MPs opposed to limited power sharing with mixed-race Coloureds and Asians.

He emphasized that he regarded the talks with President Kaunda as serious although he did not want to preempt its possible outcome.

Parole lost

Los Angeles — Gregory Powell, a subject of the best-selling book *The Onion Field* has lost his right to parole in June after serving 19 years in prison for killing a policeman. Psychiatric reports said that he would be an undue risk to the public.

Strikes at bases

Struttgart — More than 4,500 German civilian employees staged wildcat strikes at Nato bases in West Germany to back up demands for higher wages.

Nuclear vote

Wellington — Mr Robert Muldoon's government has defeated by one vote a Bill to ban all nuclear weapons from New Zealand and its territorial waters.

Salonika bomb

Salonika — A time bomb exploded outside the American Express office in central Salonika, causing extensive damage but no casualties.

Correction

It was wrongly stated in *The Times* yesterday that Mr Andreas Mavromatis had been appointed chief negotiator "for Greece" in the intercommunal talks on Cyprus and was Director General of the Greek Foreign Ministry. He is in fact Director General of the Cyprus Foreign Ministry and was negotiating on behalf of the Greek Cypriot community.

War bodies found after 38 years

Port Moresby — A United States Liberator bomber with 19 skeletons inside has been found 38 years after it crashed in mountainous jungle during the Second World War.

Colonel David Rosenberg, from the Army central identification laboratory at Fort Shafter, Hawaii, said the B2 bomber had been discovered 45 miles north-east of Port Moresby on the thick slopes of Mount Thumb.

Local villagers had helped lead American and Papua New Guinea investigators to the spot. Colonel Rosenberg said the skeletons would be flown to Honolulu for scientific tests. Investigators were still trying to locate the remains of three other personnel believed to have been on the fatal flight.

The bomber crashed soon after taking off from Port Moresby on March 22, 1944.

Polish airliner hijacked to West

Berlin — A Polish airliner was hijacked by eight people to the Templehof airfield here yesterday, an American military spokesman said.

It was hijacked on a routine flight from Wrocław to Warsaw. "There was a report of an injury to the sky marshal (security guard) and an ambulance is at the scene," the spokesman said.

Policeman killed in Uganda

Nairobi — A Ugandan policeman was shot dead by unidentified gunmen at a roadblock near the town of Nansana, north-west of the Ugandan capital.

He was the seventh policeman to be murdered by anti-Government guerrillas during the past week. Five policemen died in an ambush last week.

New start for prostitutes

Strasbourg — The European Commission is prepared to provide money to help prostitutes reintegrate into ordinary working life. In a written answer to Mme Yvette Füllet, a French Socialist MEP, Mr Ivor Richard, the Social Affairs Commissioner, has promised that "in certain circumstances" social fund money will be made available for this purpose (Ian Murray writes).

Rats defeat drugs search

Norrköping, Sweden — Dogs searching for drugs on board a Pakistani cargo ship were panicked by hordes of 15m rats, some weighing more than 2lb.

They did not find any drugs.

Graves plea

Bonn — The West German Parliament called on the Government to discuss talks with Moscow on tending German war graves in the Soviet Union. The Bundestag voted unanimously to seek negotiations to locate and tend the graves of about 2.2 million German soldiers scattered in 118,000 places in the Soviet Union.

Students riot

Lahore — A story in a Lahore newspaper alleging student involvement in a hijacking attempt has led to 175 arrests at Lahore University. Police broke up a fierce protest by Muslim students against the previous jailing of more than 100 of their number accused of ransacking the newspaper offices.

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Featuring original New Orleans players in an all-star American line-up.
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Travel: edited by Shona Crawford Poole

Sweden/Peter Black

Spring snowshine

It is such a beautiful day that I decided to enjoy it. So in mid-April I left England, where spring had reached the snowings of late and early plantings, for the village of Tallberg, population 240, on the western shore of Lake Siljan in the wilderness that stretches across Scandinavia and the Soviet Union. There, spring, advancing from the south, was still waiting for winter to retreat.

The snow stood swept into high piles, and lay in clean beds on the cold side of ditches and hedges. The newly uncovered grass was yellow and soggy. From indoors one looked out on a blue spring day, but outside the wind was in the north, the lake was frozen over.

"What a pity," you have come too early," said Arne and Christina Akersblad, renowned innkeepers of Tallberg. My advisers in Stockholm had been misled, it appeared, by euphoria during a week of fine weather at Easter. The sun was hot, the people took the chains off

their cars and went about saying: "Have a nice day! We shall pay for this!" "Spring at last!" Then there was a 6 in. fall of snow, the sleighs and shovels came out again and hope shrank.

This followed the hardest winter for 100 years: "Halloween (October, 31) is the day when the snow always comes", I was told. "This year it came 10 days before."

Of course there are consolations. Before the snow comes the living is very dark. "Like living in a sack," the snow spreads a kind of reflected light. The Swedes are organized for the winter. Houses are snug (even the gent's at Leksand railway station had a radiator) and brightly decorated. The pungent scent of wood fires hangs everywhere; and there is deep satisfaction in chucking logs on and watching them release the stored light and heat of summer.

At Christmas there are parties, and sleigh drives and skating and cross-country ski journeys. Cars can drive the short route across the frozen lake. And there is Swedish



Winter landscape at old Upsala, Sweden.

food, with its infinitely resourceful variations of marinated fish (at every lunchtime the Akersblads served seven varieties of herring fillets).

It is not the cold that eats the spirit, but the long, long dark. By April the longing for the sun is a passion. "I feel now like an old potato long in the cellar," said a woman with whom I travelled north in the train.

On Walpurgis Night, huge bonfires and processions and fireworks formally expel winter. In early May the lake

begins to thunder as the ice breaks up. Without its refrigerating effect the land warms fast. The locked-in energy of growth explodes. Gardeners hurl themselves into a two-week frenzy of cultivation to catch the short growing season. "There are many heart attacks," said Arne Akersblad. But I saw what I had come to see; the waiting, each day assuaged by some happy sighting.

Birgitta from the tourist office drove me round the lake exclaiming at the harbingers of spring: a girl on a

horse, boys playing marbles, some open water by a bridge with swans on it.

Batting along the forest road, she braked, shouting joyfully: "Tussilagen, did you see it?" She reversed 20 yards to show me the yellow flowers, like tiny suns, dotted among the grass. She looked down tenderly. "It is the first of all the spring flowers," she said.

The sun was really hot, the sky pale blue and filled with high sailing clouds. It was so still in the forest the loudest sound was a squeaking from Birgitta's corduroy trousers as her legs overtook each other. After dinner I went for a walk to catch the sun bathing the lake in a silvery glow. I could feel the day's warmth draining away. I had just about enough warm clothes on.

The evenings passed at a sober gait. Most of the other guests were mature women at a political conference. "They are what you call Whigs," said Arne. "Do you have Whigs still?" "There's one left," I said, thinking of Jo Grimond. They kept themselves apart, even ignoring the big social event of the week, Dallas on Swedish TV.

On Sunday morning I went for another walk, uplifted by a slightly louder gurgling from the ditches as the snow melted. It seemed to me that the vaguest blur had appeared on the birch trees, and a kind of veil of amber coloured the buds in the hedges. Bleatings came from new lambs turned out to have a first look at the world.

If you like peace and quiet and natural beauty you will find this little outing deeply rewarding. Take or rent a car, take a friend for the long evenings. Do not take, as I did, suits of underwear that Sir Ranulph Fiennes would have rejected as too thick. The normal English winter kit will see you through.

You can get there by Torline sea ferry to Gothenberg or by flying SAS to Stockholm and domestic flight to Borlange. Akersblad Pension: From 205 kr (about £20) a person for full board in a double room with shower, from three to seven days. Weekly rate: 200 kr. Tor Holidays Ltd, Anzani House, Trinity Avenue, Felixstowe, has a summer brochure with spring breaks with car from £78.

Gradually add two thirds of the cream, a little at a time, working it thoroughly into the puree with a wooden spoon. Season with salt and cayenne pepper. Now poach a teaspoonful of the mouseline in simmering water. If it is too rubbery, add more cream. If it is too soft, beat in more egg white. Check the seasoning and keep chilled

A keener interest in school physics and chemistry lessons might have equipped me to solve the mystery of mouseline single-handed. The question is this. Why, when adding cream to a puree of raw fish — to make quenelles or the basis of a terrine — is it supposed to be necessary not only to chill the bowl on ice, and to incorporate the cream a little at a time, but chill the bowl in the refrigerator, for half an hour or so between each addition of cream?

Part of the answer seemed clear when a rushed hatch resulted in a mouseline which tasted good, but had a wetter, more coarsely grained texture than the perfection I was aiming for.

The standard had been set at a lunch at The Ritz given by Country Chefs Seven, a club of young British chefs who wish to promote the excellence of modern British cooking. Since each of the seven chefs produced one course, the lunch was a long one. And the third course, a terrine of turbot made by Chef Murdo MacSween, near Worcester, was nothing short of heavenly.

He parted with the recipe in the obliging way that chefs do nowadays, so I asked him about the business with the ice. Could one, I ventured, be trying to make some kind of emulsion which will only 'take' in arctic temperatures, and if so, why do not recipes, even Escoffier's explain.

Chef MacSween thought not. Repeated chilling would have been necessary in big, hot restaurant kitchens in the days before food processors, but not now. Both fish and cream should be well chilled before they are combined. The trick, he says, is adding the right amount of cream. Too much and the mouseline will be wet and coarse, too little and it will be rubbery. How to judge this is explained in his recipe.

Terrine of turbot
Serves six to eight
250 g (9 oz) skinned and boned turbot
1 whole egg and 1 egg white
450 ml (1½ pint) double cream (see method)
Salt and cayenne pepper
6 large leaves fresh spinach
6 fresh scallops

Mince the turbot twice using the fine blade of the mincer. Then puree the fish with a food processor, or pestle and mortar, adding the whole egg and egg white and blending until smooth. Now sieve the puree, "this is essential even if you are using a food processor", and stand the bowl of crushed ice. Chill it well.

Gradually add two thirds of the cream, a little at a time, working it thoroughly into the puree with a wooden spoon. Season with salt and cayenne pepper. Now poach a teaspoonful of the mouseline in simmering water. If it is too rubbery, add more cream. If it is too soft, beat in more egg white. Check the seasoning and keep chilled

The Times Cook

A puzzle at the Ritz

until needed, but not for more than two hours.

Blanch the spinach leaves in boiling water, after removing the tough stalks, and refresh them in cold water. Pat them dry.

Clear the scallops, but leave them whole. Generously butter a terrine of 900ml (1½ pints) capacity and line it with spinach leaves. Half fill the terrine with mouseline, then lay the whole scallops closely together down its length. Cover with the remaining mouseline and top with spinach. Tap the terrine sharply on a hard surface to settle the contents.

Cover the terrine with a lid or foil and stand it in a large dish. Transfer both to a preheated moderate oven (180°C/350°F, gas mark 4) and pour boiling water into the larger dish, ideally to come two thirds of the way up the sides of the terrine. Bake for 30 minutes then test with a skewer. It will come out warm and clean when the terrine is cooked.

Rest the terrine for 10 minutes before turning it on to a warm plate to serve hot, or leave it to cool in the terrine for serving cold.

At the Ritz lunch the terrine was served hot with a beurre blanc sauce to which finely shredded sorrel had been added at the last moment.

Pate of salmon en croûte is another recipe which uses fish mouseline, this time to bind pieces of whole fish which are cooked in a pastry case. The pastry used is a stronger than usual version of shortcrust which is reinforced with egg.

Pate of salmon en croûte

Serves eight to ten

For the fish mouseline
225g (8 oz) skinned and boned salmon or salmon trout

Salt and cayenne pepper to taste

1 teaspoon ground mace

1 egg white

250 ml (8 fl oz) double cream, chilled

For the pastry
340g (12 oz) plain flour

1½ teaspoon salt

170g (6 oz) butter, chilled

1 egg

Iced water to mix

1 egg yolk beaten with 1 tablespoon water to glaze

For the filling
340g (12 oz) skinned and boned salmon, or salmon trout

1½ teaspoon salt

Freshly ground black pepper

30g (1¼ oz) butter

2 tablespoons dry white wine

1 tablespoon cognac

2 tablespoons chopped fresh dill

2 tablespoons chopped fresh chives

For the aspic
150 ml (½ pint) fish or chicken stock

1 tablespoon gelatine crystals

Salt to taste

1 tablespoon dry sherry

Make the salmon or salmon trout mouseline using the method explained in terrine of turbot.

Make the shortcrust pastry

in the usual way, but using the whole egg, and chill it well before rolling out.

To prepare the filling, cut the fish into long strips about 1.25 cm (½ inch) wide and thick. Season them with salt and pepper. Heat the butter in a frying pan and when it froths, add the fish. Fry it gently for only three or four minutes, just to firm the flesh. Transfer the fish to a plate to cool and sprinkle it with the wine and cognac.

To assemble the pate, generously butter or oil a rectangular hinged metal mould about 25 cm (10 inches) long by 7.5 cm (3 inches) wide and deep. Alternatively, use a non-stick loaf tin of similar dimensions. Roll out threequarters of the dough on a lightly floured surface to a long rectangle about 8 mm (½ inch) thick. Lay the fish strips on the dough, rolling it up carefully into the mould. Gently press the pastry against the base and sides of the mould so that it forms an even, crack-free crust which will be imprinted with the pattern of the tin. Trim the edges flush with the top of the tin.

Drain the fish fillets and beat a little of the wine and brandy marinade into the mouseline. Spread a layer of mouseline over the base of the pastry and top it with a closely packed layer of fish, sprinkled with herbs. Continue the layers to the top of the tin, finishing with a layer of mouseline.

Roll out the remaining pastry and trim it to make a lid. Damp the edges of the rolls of pastry with water and press the lid in place. Glaze the pastry by brushing it with egg yolk and water. To allow steam to escape, cut a small hole in the centre of the lid and prop it open with a cylinder of several thicknesses of foil and crimp the edges with the back of a fork. Brush the lid again with glaze.

Bake in a baking sheet in a preheated moderately hot oven (190°C/375°F, gas mark 5) for 15 minutes, then lower the heat to moderate (180°C/350°F, gas mark 4) and continue baking for another 1½ hours. If the crust is browning too quickly, cover it loosely with foil.

When the pate is almost cold, remove the foil chimney and tin. Chill it well.

To make the aspic strain the stock through a fine sieve lined with a double layer of damp muslin or with kitchen paper. Sprinkle the gelatine on the stock, seasoned to taste, in a small pan, and when it has swollen heat gently until the crystals have dissolved completely. Cool the aspic and stir in the sherry. Chill a spoonful of aspic to check that it sets firmly enough, and add more gelatine if necessary.

Place a small funnel in the hole in the lid of the pate and pour in a little of the aspic. If leaks in the pastry become apparent, chill the pate again to set the jelly inserted, then continue filling with melted aspic until it will accept no more. Chill the pate for several hours before serving.

A delicate cold sauce to serve with fish is easily made by mixing good mayonnaise half and half with single cream and plenty of finely chopped fresh dill.

Shona Crawford Poole

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Jill Craigie celebrates the centenary of the most puzzling Pankhurst

Sylvia, the revolutionary who ended in a feudal palace

Little Sylvia Pankhurst, born in Manchester 100 years ago next Wednesday, looked through the eyes of an artist and lived as a revolutionary. Paradoxically, she spent her last years living in a grace-and-favour house as the family friend and adviser to the only surviving feudal monarch, Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia.

In memory of her services to that country stands a monument, in front of the cathedral of Addis Ababa, more impressive than any in honour of Ethiopian patriots. Of more benefit to the inhabitants are the welfare services she established — if they still exist — especially the well-equipped Princess Tashai Memorial Hospital, for which she struggled to raise the money untiringly during her old age. She died of a heart attack in Addis Ababa at the age of 78.

Sylvia's fame today rests mainly on what she wrote about herself in the book she conceived as an autobiography, *The Suffragette Movement*. She gives a vivid account of her childhood and family life, of her grueling experience as a militant and as a pacifist during the First World War, referring throughout to her personal opinions and emotions.

Kenneth Morgan, in his biography of Keir Hardie, has touched on her strange love affair with the Labour leader, and David Mitchell, in *The Fighting Pankhursts*, has covered most of her later public activities. Otherwise, little is known of the true Sylvia, or her inner conflicts and private life. It seems from papers deposited in Amsterdam that she wanted the world to know of her love affair with Keir Hardie, but nothing about her son's father, Silvio Corio, the anti-fascist refugee. Papers issued by the Italian secret police, discovered by an American professor, Patricia Romero, give details of Corio's background and suggest that, in his underground fight against the fascist regime, he depended for his maintenance on women, as he did later on Sylvia herself, though she never lost sight of her objective human welfare and progress. In 1917 she saw hope for humanity in the Russian

revolution and joined with others to foment a similar uprising in Britain, thereby rejecting pacifism — a fact omitted from *The Suffragette Movement*.

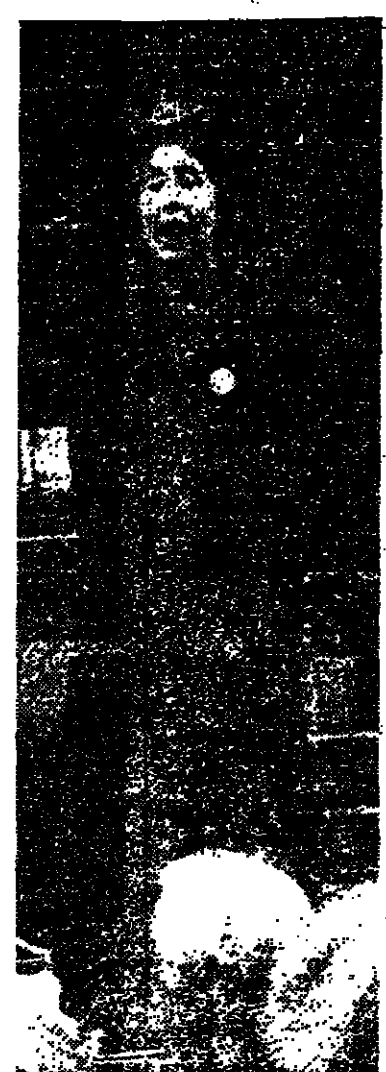
Though deprived of a visa, she overtook Scotland Yard by going to Moscow in time for the second session of the Third International, intent on engaging Lenin in open debate. She thought his instructions to British communists to infiltrate Parliament and trade unions futile compared with a genuine insurrection of the proletariat. Only by such an uprising would it be possible for the administration and places of employment to be taken over by workers' councils and run on Soviet lines.

Lenin averted the argument by treating her as the guest of honour. Verbatim reports of her speeches in the Record Office testify to her incitement of the navy to bombard the Palace of Westminster. Articles deemed to be seditious, published in her paper, *The Workers' Dreadnought*, which bore the subtitle, "Organ of the Communist Party", led to her being sentenced to her eighth term of imprisonment. On her release she continued to criticize communist policy, for which she was expelled from the party.

Richard Pankhurst has denied that his mother was ever a communist. No doubt that was what he was led to believe; but Mitchell and Romero provide conclusive evidence to the contrary. Disillusioned by the war and the failure of the post-war government to build the promised new world, Sylvia, like Ellen Wilkinson and others whose names are now respected, thought that the new Jerusalem could be built overnight on the ashes of established institutions, forgetting that forced growths fall to put down deep roots.

Sylvia soon became a defender of parliamentary democracy while remaining a Marxist. In her concern to improve conditions for the poor, she lambasted housing officials until their files bulged with her correspondence. In row after row of the unemployed in a siege on the town hall. Try as she might, little came of her endeavours other than the bruised heads suffered by the unemployed, victims of a police baton charge.

In 1928, at the age of 46, Sylvia found what, perhaps, she had been looking for throughout life, a worthy cause. "A rare creature of genius" whom she could help, and a substitute, it seems, for her adored father. She founded the



scandalized her contemporaries and half killed her mother, who had just been adopted as Conservative candidate for Whitechapel, by telling a journalist that, partly for eugenic reasons, but also as a matter of principle, she had given birth to a son out of wedlock.

Sunday newspaper placards displayed in huge type: MISS PANKHURST'S BABY. As her sister, Christabel, was better known and then preaching the Second Coming, the repercussions on her were rather unfortunate. With the invasion of Ethiopia and its emperor in exile, Sylvia found what, perhaps, she had been looking for throughout life, a worthy cause. "A rare creature of genius" whom she could help, and a substitute, it seems, for her adored father. She founded the



Sylvia Pankhurst addresses a by-election meeting in Manchester (left) after she had moved from sedition to support of parliamentary democracy. Above, with her son, Richard, born in 1928. "I wanted a baby without the ties of marriage," she said. Right, the Labour leader, Keir Hardie, with whom she had an affair, and Emperor Haile Selassie, whose adviser she became.

New Times and Ethiopia News and became Haile Selassie's propagandist-in-chief at a time when his fortunes were at their lowest and he stood most in need of an advocate in Britain.

In an unpublished letter written from Ethiopia to Christabel, Sylvia came to the startling conclusion that she had probably been mistaken in abandoning her art for duty. She painted in words more effectively than she did in oil or water colour. Writing of her childhood, she tells how the trade union leader, Tom Mann, grew so hot and excited when making a speech that she could not take her eyes off his shirt, which gradually crumpled, until it resembled a wet rag.

During her childhood, anarchists, free thinkers, rebels and reformers swarmed into the Pankhurst home, filling the air with their talk of strikes, lock-outs, women's suffrage, socialism and, most often, of the injustices perpetrated by heads of government and all, even the great Gladstone. Some of the guests had gone to prison for a cause, a fairly common occurrence in the days

when the disenfranchised had no means of overturning repressive governments. To work, if needs be, to suffer for a cause, the young Pankhursts learned, was the purpose of existence.

One day in 1893, when to no avail the issue of women's suffrage had been debated in the Commons for the fourteenth time, the father, Dr Pankhurst, cried out in desperation, "Why are women so patient? Why don't you force us to give you the vote? Why don't you scratch our eyes out?" He clawed the air with his fingers.

The scene imprinted itself indelibly in the minds of his family. Given such intensive indoctrination it would have been a miracle if any of the children had grown up with an ounce of respect for the powers that be. None of them did. The suffragette campaign was the logical outcome of their upbringing.

Christabel was the darling of her mother's heart, and eclipsed Sylvia. Christabel not only learned to read at an earlier age and was considered to have the better brain, wrongly as it transpired, but she also excelled in beauty.

grace and charm. On the platform that, but for her, the WSPU would have been almost exclusively middle class, for which it has been stigmatized by historians ever since. Abundant evidence exists to prove that, like the temperance movement and the Anti-Corn Law League, the suffragette campaign won support from all classes.

She commanded a huge following until, in 1912, she directed a campaign of arson and destruction from Paris.

During the arson campaign Christabel and her mother were the most hated women in Britain. Yet, no sooner did they declare their support for the war than they won their way back to public and political favour. Sylvia, with most of the brave suffragettes, suffered opprobrium. For denouncing conscription in Trafalgar Square, a number of soldiers hounded her off the platform and pelted her with missiles — a fact omitted in *The Suffragette Movement*.

Hearing of the debacle while in America, Emmeline Pankhurst sent a cable for publication denouncing Sylvia's "foolish and unpatriotic conduct". This was not the first nor the last of public repudiations of Sylvia by her mother, and vice versa.

In one way and another, Sylvia had suffered at the hands of her two relatives for most of her life. Odd remarks made in the past and incidents seem to have built up in her mind to become major grievances, but in one respect, at least, Sylvia had the edge on them both. She could write.

In a carefully considered review of *The Suffragette Movement*, the constitutionalist, Ray Strachey, wrote: "There is much bitterness in its pages, much inaccuracy and misstatement and an evident and undisguised animus against Mrs Pankhurst and Christabel which is almost tragic in its intensity. . . . As a historical document, indeed, this book is invaluable; but as a contribution to history itself it is valueless."

Documentary evidence makes it impossible to dissent from Strachey's verdict. In her own right came to her with maturity, when she was wiser and better understood the wicked ways of this world. During her last years she enjoyed a sense of fulfillment and achievement and the love too of her son and daughter-in-law. As she put it in a letter to Christabel forwarded from Addis Ababa: "Yes, it is better for me here. I can really do something for people and they show their appreciation."

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Sylvia's prejudices, coupled with her inability to consider two sides of an argument, warped her judgment, making her an erratic guide on the subject of politics and people. She misrepresents by omission.

To mention just one of innumerable examples, she claims to have given the lead to "a substantial share of the Socialist, Labour and Suffrage organizations" in agitating for a number of reforms. She supported all the agitation she mentions and led a demonstration for equal pay and fairer wages for women, the issue having arisen afresh from the exploitation of female munition workers.

She omits the fact that her mother, who now wielded influence in high places, had already made representations to Lloyd George on behalf of the munition workers. Partly due to her intervention Lloyd George did introduce the long-demanded minimum rate for women and, in many factories, producing munitions directly under government contract, even equal pay.

We can understand Sylvia's need to prove her worth; but in feathering her nest for posterity, she laid a trap into which several historians have fallen. Sylvia should be judged not on what she wrote with bitterness but on her whole life, on her consistent compassion for the underdog, on the energy she expended on their behalf, whether in the mass or as individuals, on her prolific writing, and on her extraordinary courage. Fame in her own right came to her with maturity, when she was wiser and better understood the wicked ways of this world.

During her last years she enjoyed a sense of fulfillment and achievement and the love too of her son and daughter-in-law. As she put it in a letter to Christabel forwarded from Addis Ababa: "Yes, it is better for me here. I can really do something for people and they show their appreciation."

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Geoffrey Smith

The Ulster parallel in the Falklands dispute

"The sticking point for us is the right of self-determination," said Mrs Thatcher on *Panorama* this week. It is a principle that she has propounded time and time again during the Falklands crisis. In any settlement the wishes of the islanders must be paramount. But obvious though this principle may seem, it has not passed without challenge.

Mr David Steel suggested in the Commons on April 20 that "while their wishes and interests are uppermost in our minds the long-term issue is a paramount one for the House to resolve". A good many Conservatives privately agree.

They are afraid that beneath the sacred banner of "self-determination", 1,800 Falklanders will be given the right to decide not only their own future but also the direction of British defence and foreign policy as well. If they are given the right of veto, it is asked, might they not exercise it so as to approve only a virtual return to the *status quo ante*?

Would this not imply the permanent partitioning of a sizeable British garrison on the islands? And would this not have serious consequences for Britain's role in Nato and her relations with Europe? Would not the Falkland Islands be waging the British dog with a vengeance?

It is time therefore to consider what we mean by self-determination and what kind of veto, if any, the islanders should have over a settlement. The task is complicated by the fact that the concept has been used in two different senses in the course of this century. There is what might be termed positive self-determination, the right to choose which nation state to be a part of; and there is negative self-determination, the right not to have one's constitutional status changed against one's will, not to be thrown out of the state to which one belongs or to be forced to join another.

The attempt to apply the first, more ambitious, form of self-determination has caused as many problems as it has solved. In the words of the American political commentator Walter Lippmann, it "can be and has been used to promote the dismemberment of practically every organized state". He was thinking of Woodrow Wilson's efforts to promote a lasting European settlement after the First World War. Wilson's ideal was a noble one. As he put it in a famous speech to the Senate in January 1917: "No peace can last, or ought to last, which does not recognize and accept the principle that governments derive all

their just powers from the consent of the governed."

As a general proposition that is unexceptionable. But it was interpreted, not least by Wilson himself, to mean the right of nationalities to belong to the state of their own preference. In a continent where the different nationalities are so mingled with one another as they are in Europe this was a recipe for perpetual instability. The map of Europe could not be redrawn along ethnic frontiers so as to provide a feasible pattern of states; other factors, such as geography, economics and history had to be taken into account as well.

The Treaty of Versailles could not faithfully apply the doctrine of self-determination but the propagation of the principle ensured a sense of grievance among the

Self-determination: would this mean the Falkland Islands wagging the British dog with a vengeance?

national minorities who could not be part of the state of their choosing. The Munich crisis occurred over the demand that the Sudeten Germans should be taken out of Czechoslovakia, a good example of positive self-determination, but disastrous for Czechoslovakia and disruptive for Europe.

This form of self-determination caused such problems because its claims are so ambitious that it can be regarded as a binding principle. This is not, however, what is at stake over the Falklands. The claim that needs to be enforced in this case is the more modest but more compelling one of negative self-determination, the right not to be forced to become Argentinians against their will.

Mrs Thatcher has sometimes spoken in a way that is liable to confuse the two types of self-determination. "Britain has taken more colonial territories to independence than any other nation in the world," she said in her *Panorama* interview. "We have done it always by saying, 'now what do the people in that territory want' and we have negotiated with them a constitution. This must also apply to the islanders."

I believe that was pitching it a bit too high. We have every reason to be proud of Britain's record in granting independence to former colonies, but it is not strictly

comparable to the position of the Falklanders today. Britain was then responding to the wishes of a majority of people in those territories for a change in their constitutional status. These decisions were examples of positive self-determination in circumstances where that was realistic and appropriate.

In this instance the Government has not taken its stand to give the islanders the constitutional status they would ideally like: otherwise it would not have resisted the demands that they should be given full British citizenship when the Nationality Act was going through Parliament. It would not now be realistic even to promise that if there are to be changes these must be more to the taste of the Falklanders than their previous position. Nor is it essential to associate them with the process of negotiation, in the way that their representatives were included in the previous negotiations with Argentina.

The principle that should apply to the Falkland Islands is no more and no less than the guarantee that successive British governments have offered to the people of Northern Ireland: that their constitutional status will not be changed against their will. There may legitimately be attempts to persuade them to what is realistic, but ultimately they have the right to say no.

It may be objected that this is all very well but it is simply not practical politics in the case of the Falklands. To which there are two answers. Not all principles can be enforced, but a principle does not cease to be a principle because of the difficulty of enforcing it. The Falklanders have rights which should be acknowledged, whether they are honoured or not.

Secondly, provided it is possible to recover control of the islands, it should be easier than is now widely supposed to enforce this principle in future. If the Argentinians are now made to withdraw, there is unlikely to be a succession of invasions every other year.

The aid of the international community could also be enlisted. There could be an American guarantee, a United Nations force or some other arrangement. Britain could afford to be flexible over the means at this stage, provided that the principle was adequately safeguarded.

There is an international interest in securing acceptance of the rule that the people of a clearly defined territory cannot be propelled against their will from one state to another.

Warsaw

To be arrested late on a freezing December night, transported to a camp and, innocent of any crime, bottled off from society for three months might be deemed even by the grained standards of Polish history an unusually unpleasant experience. Yet as the Polish government begins to release large numbers from internment, former inmates are finding that the problems of detention are dwarfed by the delicate day-to-day moral dilemma of surviving a politically critical intellectual.

The result is bewildering, with even the most sage of the Polish intelligentsia searching, child-like, for guidance. Should I emigrate, they ask — should we create a literature in exile?

Andrzej Szczypiorski is a lumpy man in his late fifties who looks as if he has been dressed at random by compassionate strangers. He was picked up on December 12, taken to Bieleleka jail for two days, then transferred to the "intellectuals' camp" at Drawsko Pomorskie. He was released shortly before Easter. Mr Szczypiorski was an official in the Polish Pen Club but was never in Solidarity; his internment seems to have been based on the fact that he is a free-thinking novelist, scriptwriter and occasional political commentator who drew logical conclusions about the failures of the system.

He has published 20 books, all of which, apart from the latest *The Polish Ordeal* (published in England by Croom Helm), have all appeared in Poland.

In short, Mr Szczypiorski is as fine a representative of the Polish intelligentsia as it is possible to find. Over the last weekend we talked at length about the central question of whether it is possible to write in Poland under martial law. The Polish government has already signalled that it wants to solve its self-created internment problem by encouraging internees to leave the country.

That is not a euphemism; the government stresses that those who leave will do so of their own free will and not be deported. So far about 700 present and recently released internees have applied to leave (apparently 67 of them want to go to Britain but some are uncertain about whether the British government is prepared to take them). On April 14, Mr Szczypiorski was called in to see General Czeslaw Kiszcak, the Interior Minister and was told that he and his family could leave, with some of their property. The General seemed to express genuine regret that such an offer should have been necessary.

Both he and Rakowski, the Deputy Premier, and a former colleague of Mr Szczypiorski, said that Poland needed its creative people; that I should perhaps come back after two or three years when the difficult times are over. I believe them when they say that but it is the officials lower down that worry me.

Certainly, the cordiality of these ministers was not matched by the army newspaper *Zolnierz Wolnosci* which accused Mr Szczypiorski of "I don't know what, being an imperialist hack, working for the Japanese secret service". There are mixed signals from the party and as a result more and more interned intellectuals are seriously considering emigration.

Mr Szczypiorski, and others of his temperament, could choose "inner emigration" — that is, stay in Poland and become a petrol pump attendant. He could write but not be published, except in the underground publications, or he could go abroad and write for people who, in the main, do not understand what he is writing — or become a petrol pump attendant in the West.

Fast exit from Warsaw

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essential in its renaissance, it should accept certain self-limitations.

As soon as Mr Szczypiorski left the cloisters of Drawsko he entered a world of considerable variance with the picture painted within the camp: the rules had been changed, apparently immutably. The room for manoeuvre imagined by former Solidarity adherents in their confinement no longer existed. Poland had changed and rather than change with it, Mr Szczypiorski is actively considering emigration, although he knows it might be a long time before he is allowed to return.

"It can be done — our greatest living poet, Czeslaw Milosz, and our greatest living philosopher, Leszek Kolakowski, have been in exile for decades."

But there is some despair in this: Mr Szczypiorski's life is a classically Polish one. His father was a young man in the Poland of General Pilsudski before the war, and became part of the Polish government in exile in London during the war. He returned in 1956 when Mr Wladyslaw Gomulka came to power, and helped, in his eighties to found KOR, the dissident group, in 1976.

His son spent time in Sachsenhausen concentration camp and has seen his star rise and fall in the long march from Stalinist post-war Poland to martial law. That is a lot of luggage to leave behind.

Roger Boyes

The world comes to Main Street

Knoxville, Tennessee. The World's Fair conjures up exciting images of futuristic cities, international cuisine and cosmopolitan nightspots. Paris, Brussels, New York and Montreal have all held one. This year the World's Fair will be held in Knoxville, a city with a population of a mere 180,000.

It's as if a coronation was held in Princeton or the Cug Final in Tring. Nevertheless, today, through the turnstiles on a 72-acre site — once a decaying industrial area in the city centre — will pour the first of 11 million people to see the fair, whose theme is "Energy turns the world".

Here they know more about the kind of energy you get from "wigwagging" than shine made to see old recipes up in the Tennessee hills. But Knoxville is the home of the Tennessee Valley Authority Power Company, hence the fair's theme.

The town's nightspots run more to clog dancing and country fiddling than discos, and their idea of haute cuisine is hickory smoked barbecue ribs, country fried chicken, collard greens, red-eye gravy and grits — a

southern staple which looks and tastes like coarse semolina.

Knoxville is southern, but it is not the South; magnolias, mint juleps and ante-bellum mansions. The hilly terrain did not lend itself to columned splendour — think Beverly Hillsbillies — not *Gone With The Wind*. Even within Tennessee most of the attention goes to Nashville, home of country music and the Grand Old Opry, and Memphis, famous for its Elvis Presley shrines. Knoxville is as unlikely a site for a World's Fair as could be imagined.

The "Good ole boys", the businessmen who turn the wheels in Knoxville, did not know you are supposed to be sophisticated and urbane to run a World's Fair. They simply floated multi-million dollar bonds to finance the project, then went out and sold the idea, first to President Carter, then to the world. Now to Knoxville are coming representatives of 21 nations, bringing with them everything from chunks of the Great Wall of China for the China pavilion — the fair's biggest coup; China

had not taken part in a fair since 1904 — to camels and desert sand for Saudi Arabia's display.

Australia has set up a family of windmills to irrigate the local terrain and a variety of Australian vegetation. Britain's exhibit includes the cross-Channel power link and the Dnipro scheme — using cheap electricity at night to pump water into a mountain reservoir, and using the water to

produce electricity during peak demand. All the pavilions will be clustered around Knoxville's very own Eiffel Tower — the space needle, a 265ft sun sphere on top of which fairgoers can dine in a revolving



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

A FRIEND INDEED

From the first day of the Falklands crisis, the United States assumed the role of mediator for a combination of reasons. It did not wish to sully its relations with Latin America in general and Argentina in particular by openly backing a European nation in the western hemisphere; and the United States administration maintained that it could more effectively bring its influence to bear in favour of a peaceful settlement by acting as an honest broker rather than a partisan.

The British Government publicly and repeatedly welcomed American mediation, whether for reasons of prudence or genuine enthusiasm. It is certainly good that the attempt was made, and the course pursued with the zeal that Mr Haig brought to the task. Otherwise there would have been critics who maintained that American mediation would have brought a swift peace if only it had been tried. Now it has been tried as hard and for as long as could reasonably have been expected, without of itself producing the necessary result. The pressures that could properly be exerted by a mediator did not bring Argentina to accept a just and satisfactory settlement.

Now the United States is throwing its weight on Britain's side, this is doubly welcome. It is good for Anglo-American relations which would have suffered if it had seemed that the United States was clinging to the role of mediator well beyond the point at which there was any reasonable chance of Mr Haig's shuttle diplomacy producing a negotiated settlement. There would have been the impression then that the American administration was more interested in saving itself from embarrassment than in securing a fair outcome. The decision must also be reassuring elsewhere in Europe, showing as it does, that when it comes to the hard point, the United States

is a friend and ally which can be counted on.

It is also encouraging because it means that far more pressure will now be brought to bear upon Argentina. Britain has responded to the seizure of the Falklands with impressive resolution. The mobilization of the task force has been a technical achievement of a high order. The policy of gradually increasing the military pressure on the Argentine forces step by step has shown that strength was being applied with judgment. But real power in the Western world is exercised nowadays by the United States. If it stands aside, then an aggressor has to face only a small proportion of the strength—military, economic and psychological—that could and should be mobilized against it.

There will even now be no direct military involvement of American forces, but that was never expected. Without going so far as that, there is a good deal that the United States can and will now do to help Britain's cause. Mr Haig said yesterday that the administration "will respond positively for requests for material support for British forces." There is much that can be provided in terms of logistical back-up for a task force operating some 8,000 miles from home. In-flight refuelling could be given to British planes. Tanker supplies could be made available. Any shortage that suddenly became evident could be met much more swiftly with American assistance than if everything had to be supplied from Britain.

A variety of sanctions will now be imposed upon Argentina. President Reagan has ordered the suspension of all military exports there, and "the withholding of certification of Argentine eligibility for military sales." Over a period of time this would be bound to have a serious effect upon Argentine military capacity. The strictly economic sanctions will have both an

immediate and delayed effect. The suspension of bank credits and guarantees, and of commodity credit corporation guarantees, will probably take a few months to have their full impact. But the mere imposition of these restrictions must be a severe blow to confidence in an economy that was already in grave difficulties. Altogether this is a strong package of measures that the administration has announced, an indication that when Mr Reagan does move he moves firmly.

Beyond the measures themselves there is the psychological effect of the United States having now taken sides. When Mr Pym meets Mr Haig in Washington this weekend he will be speaking to him once again as an ally and a partner; not as a neutral personage. That is how it ought to be between any British Foreign Secretary and any Secretary of State. It will add confidence to a British enterprise that has never been lacking in determination.

This should strengthen the British resolve to persist in the strategy of steadily increasing the pressure on Argentina. That pressure will now be immeasurably greater because the junta must surely realize that the United States could not afford now to let Britain lose over the Falklands without itself losing respect in Latin America and elsewhere. It should therefore improve the chances of a peaceful solution, and Mr Pym's visit to the Secretary-General of the United Nations in New York will also be an indication of Britain's overwhelming desire for a peaceful settlement, if possible. But the American decision to stand alongside Britain will make it easier for the Government to insist upon the principles for which it has taken action. This is good not only for the alliance but also for those who believe that aggression, from whatever quarter it may come, must always be resisted.

THAILAND'S ROLE IN THE FRONT LINE

Thailand's military rulers are nowadays more likely to see themselves as guardians of a still frail but budding democracy than the dictators of the past, so no savour of diseste diluted the welcome to Thailand's Prime Minister, General Prem Tinsulanond on his visit to London this week. From London to Brussels, a mark of the close and now regular ties that link the European Community with the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean).

General Prem represents a country that is in some ways unique in the region and certainly one of the most important in South-East Asia. From being an area supposedly under threat of communist expansion ever since the war of French withdrawal from Indo-China, South-East Asia is now a well-knit zone of successful economic growth and relatively mature nationalism. When Lord Carrington toured the area earlier this year he took with him a posse of businessmen, bent on expansion no doubt, but no political extremists has yet

been found to castigate trade expansion.

Thailand's obvious claim to uniqueness is that—by Anglo-French agreement—the country escaped the rapacity of late nineteenth century colonialism. The fact is obvious: the implications are less appreciated. Not only does Thailand live in a sense of territorial and administrative continuity symbolised by a still healthy and respected monarchy. Thailand's ex-colonial colleagues in Asean are all new states, in the sense of finding their present territorial, ethnic and social mixtures posing a new problem in national building. Even Indonesia's substantial political heritage, though it may influence, cannot simply define or shape the country now ruled from Jakarta.

Moreover, the Thais conserve a better sense of where they are. Their links with China are real; even though they were attenuated in the colonial era, they have never lost their significance to either side, whereas in the minds of Malaysians and

Indonesians China is associated primarily with the Chinese communities in their midst. An important relic of the past is Thailand's old rivalry with Vietnam. Thailand's relationship with its Vietnamese-dominated and Vietnamese communist-inspired neighbours of Laos and Cambodia is one of the disastrous legacies of French rule, in so far as that rule evicted Thai influence from Cambodia and Laos (countries closer in every sense to Thailand) and freely allowed Vietnamese immigration and influence into both countries. While the cooperation of Asean in resolving the difficulties faced on this communist frontier has been helpful, it remains Thailand that is most involved, by both continuity and past relations, with Vietnam and with China. Since the Indo-China war finally came to end in 1975, the fear of further dominoes falling in South-East Asia has not been a major source of world anxiety. The credit that goes to Asean and not to Thailand among its members to Thailand.

Claiming benefits

From Dr Z. Mahmood

Sir, Pat Healy's report in *The Times* (April 16) points out a serious blemish which continues to mar the concept of "caring society". In spite of repeated attempts by the Government to encourage people to claim their rights, an ever increasing number of sick, disabled and aged people are failing to claim full supplementary benefits which they are entitled to, resulting in a £35m "saving" (choice of this word reflects insensitivity, perhaps "unpaid debt", a more apologetic phrase, would have been more appropriate).

The intention of the Government and the Local Authorities to publish (yet another) explanatory leaflet is unlikely to publicise effectively, who is eligible and who is not. In my opinion, one of the major reasons for the inefficiency of explanatory leaflets and guide booklets is that they are written in a language not fully comprehensible to the "average" sick, disabled and aged individuals.

In Britain, the generally acceptable level of "literacy" considered sufficient for an individual to "get by" in everyday life is a Reading Age of nine years (that of an average nine year-old schoolchild). However, most of the Government leaflets require a much higher literacy level than that. Various investigations have shown that the Reading Age required for the Family Income Supplement Leaflet is between 14-17 years, Family

Income Allowance Leaflet (for Immigrants) 13½-14½, Free Prescriptions Leaflet 15½-17½. Such information is available for a number of similar reading materials, eg Income Tax Return Guide, Claim Form for Industrial Injury, Fire Regulations, Disinfectant Bottle Labels and so on. In each case, the literacy level, let alone comprehension, is much too high for the people to whom they are addressed.

Therefore, in order to inform the public of their rights, it should be ensured that such communications are written in a language which can be easily read and comprehended by the "average" person. Such a thoughtful policy will be greatly appreciated by the general public, let alone enable a lot more people to claim what is their legitimate right.

Yours faithfully,
Z. MAHMOOD,
Physiology Department,
Duke Street Hospital,
5 Oakley Terrace,
Glasgow.

Kissinger visit

From Mr John Pilger

Sir, As the journalist to whom Richard Dwyer and Edward Mortimer referred in their report about the visit of Henry Kissinger (April 28), I would like to make several points before Kissinger and his attendants in Press are allowed to completely re-write recent history. Dwyer and Mortimer wrote: "Dr Kissinger

has been called 'prickly' by some, and further attempts to needle him were made at the press conference, where one journalist asked why this book included such a long defensive appendix refuting the charges made by William Shawcross about American bombing in Cambodia."

Dwyer and Mortimer conducted what is described as an interview with Kissinger, but they asked not a single critical question, least of all about Kissinger's own credibility. Such questions are apparently known as "needling". Indeed, the men from *The Times* quickly added that Dr Kissinger's "humour seemed to have re-emerged from that onslaught" (my question to him) and they went on to describe William Shawcross's charges against Kissinger as a controversy which no longer raged. How comforting it all must have been for both interviewers and interviewees!

Alas, while controversy may no longer rage, truth does. Kissinger, in his latest, huge and apologetic book's appendix, fails to refute Shawcross's central and meticulously documented charge that he and Nixon secretly and illegally conducted a massive bombing campaign against neutral Cambodia. Surely, journalism is demeaned by deference to the kind of pretentious "statesman-ship" affected by Henry Kissinger, or is this only understood by those like myself, who have seen the terrible human consequences of his "diplomacy", in Indochina and elsewhere?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN PILGER,
57 Hambalt Road, SW4

Housing renewal in inner cities

From Mr David Bebb and others

Sir, As directors of the major inner city housing associations, we welcome Michael Heseltine's wholehearted involvement in working to save these decaying areas (report, April 15). His personal commitment has undoubtedly affected the climate in which we and others work for inner city renewal. We share his belief that they can be saved. But in trying to halt the collapse of community life, as Mr Heseltine himself puts it, "many policies conflict". The decline in Government's programme of investment through the Housing Corporation, which is now down from 35,000 homes to 20,000, has greatly reduced our contribution to inner city housing renewal.

Moreover, the effect of a range of government policies has been to shift the emphasis of this much smaller programme away from improving and rehabilitating homes in the most deprived inner city areas. New initiatives and priorities, although valuable in themselves, have combined to take away resources from the most urgent of housing priorities, the improvement of living conditions for the disadvantaged in these areas.

Currently, these programmes have little priority and the recently announced annual allocations to housing associations from the Housing Corporation confirm this trend. They show no special provision at all for inner city rehabilitation, which is swept up into a category of "Other Needs". At the same time reductions to our work intensify the problems of unemployment, particularly among the unskilled. In not only suffering from these reduced programmes, but this year we will also be unable to get on with improvement works to hundreds of our existing properties, many of them standing empty, because the Housing Corporation cannot finance the necessary repairs. The ultimate costs will be much greater after a further period of continued neglect.

Over the last 15 years, the work of inner city housing associations has received considerable recognition and support from successive Governments of differing persuasions. It was virtually pioneered rehabilitation in inner city areas. We have no doubts that our work accords with the objectives so forcefully advocated by Mr Heseltine in his article of April 15, but when can we expect the decisions of his Department and Housing Corporation to fall into line with his own priorities?

Yours faithfully,
DAVID BEBB,
JOHN COWARD,
DAVID MUMFORD,
DONALD HOODLESS,
PAUL THOMPSON,
MICHAEL SMITH,
ALAN KILBURN,
ANDREW MALONE,
MIKE AGER,
DON WOOD,
CATHERINE MEREDITH,
JANET HAMMOND,
PETER NORMAN,
BILL MARTIN.

Circle 33 Housing Trust Ltd,
26 St Pancras Road, NW1,
April 29.

Darwinian evolution

From Mr Nigel Vaux Halliday

Sir, Christopher Booker's doubts (feature, April 19) about the evolution of species still stand. For Dr Turner (April 22) must either show us, according to his first suggestion, to what alternative use an animal would have put its half-evolved wing; or persuade us, according to his second suggestion, that it is reasonable to assume that animals developed into birds in a single genetic change leaving no intermediate stages.

Or to use a different example, he must either show us what use is a hole in the head before the eye is formed; or he must persuade us that we can reasonably believe that the hole in the head and the appearance of a functioning eye happened in a single genetic change.

It is not right to say that explanations exist for intermediate cases; but the explanations do not yet convince the sceptical.

Yours faithfully,
NIGEL HALLIDAY,
16A Darrell Road,
Kew,
Surrey,
April 22.

Venus observed?

From Mr Vernon Dawson

Sir, I am one of the many who enjoy Patrick Moore's television topics. However, he is right in saying in *The Times* of Saturday, April 24: "Venus last passed across the face of the sun in 1882 so that there can be nobody living to remember it."

By coincidence, my local paper on the same day reported that Mrs Grace Jeffery had her 104th birthday. She is a sprightly old lady and spent her birthday on a visit to Hampton Court and at her favourite restaurant.

As we all, I think, remember things which happen when we were three years old and up, might not she have remembered, or at least heard discussion, 100 years ago?

Yours faithfully,
VERNON DAWSON,
149 Park Road,
Teddington,
Middlesex,
April 24.

CORRECTION

In a leading article on April 16 it was stated that Jerusalem is regarded by Muslims as their second most holy city after Mecca and Medina.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Christian dilemma on threat of war

From the Reverend P. G. Atkinson

Sir, All Christians must pray for peace in the Falkland Islands, and must deplore the warmongering of some of our fellow-countrymen. The reported opinion of Mr Anthony Marlow, MP (*The Times*, April 21), that the morale of the armed forces would suffer if the naval task force were to return home without having been used, is a particularly shameful instance of this. That being said, however, Christians are not committed to the pacifist opinions advocated in your columns this morning (April 21) by the Reverend Gordon Wilson.

Pacifism, like voluntary poverty or the celibate state, is a precept of the Gospel, with the practical implications of which the Christian conscience must always wrestle. Like those other disciplines, however, pacifism may equally become a way of evading serious attention to the moral dilemmas presented by the society in which Christians find themselves placed.

In the present dispute, the British Government has a prima facie case, which the pacifist is bound to answer. The homeland of a small and defenceless community has been occupied against the wishes of that community by a powerful military regime with a discreditable record in the matter of human rights. The British Government has an undeniable responsibility for the freedom and welfare of the Islanders, and is at present seeking to discharge this responsibility by diplomatic means. But diplomacy, to be effective, requires bargaining power; and such power the Government hopes to secure, in the first place by pressure of economic sanction, and, as a last resort, by military threat. Such is the Government's position; and, in principle, it is a morally defensible one.

The pacifist must surely demonstrate, either that the facts of the case are other than I have described; or, that there is some other practical method by which the Government may discharge its responsibility to the Islanders; or, that the total damage to human life (not something to be accounted merely in terms of immediate bloodshed) which is likely to result from the Government's present course of action

will outweigh the good it is trying to achieve.

Perhaps the pacifist can make out such a case; but it has not been made yet. Mr Wilson's picturesque proposal that the United Kingdom and Argentina should collaborate in erecting an abbey on the Islands as a shrine of peace, does nothing to assist in the resolution of the problem, or to encourage the rest of us to take seriously the pacifist's position.

Yours sincerely,
P. G. ATKINSON,
The Glebe House,
6 Rectory Grove,
Clapham, SW4.

From Mr David Evans

Sir, I was surprised that you ventured into the debate on "The Just War" in your leading article last Saturday. While admiring your honesty, however, I must confess it seemed to me too deep and personal an issue for a newspaper to comment upon.

Having said that, there are two comments I would like to make on what you said:

1. You say "there are two respectable traditions; one of total pacifism, the other based on the just war". I think you should be more willing to acknowledge a third tradition which is represented best by Christian CND. Surely that position is an honourable one as it derives from a conviction that a "just" nuclear war is a contradiction in terms in that it cannot limit killing to (in your own words) "those directly involved... with the force that has to be resisted."

2. Surely the Christian, in understanding his "just" nuclear war as a "put it in," should be able to see better than most that status, national sovereignty, teaching an aggressor a lesson, are all less important than seeking a compromise with the Argentines which allows the Falkland Islanders interests to be fully protected, and yet at the same time can be accepted by military junta which in its weakness must "save face".

Yours faithfully,
DAVID EVANS,
Rivendell,
3 Green Lane Close,
Chertsey,
Surrey,
April 27.

Further advantages of the added value concept are that it provides a very strong incentive to wealth creation (since pay is related to added value), encourages high quality (since value depends upon quality) and discourages waste (since waste reduces added value). It also highlights the truth that prosperity requires the combined contributions of management, employees and capital.

In this connection it was unfortunate that Professor Beresford Dew should refer disparagingly to shareholders when what is needed above all is harmony. The Japanese experience shows very clearly how vital to prosperity is the contribution of capital.

There would, of course, be very great difficulties in introducing the added value concept in Great Britain, but if the Japanese succeeded there is no reason to think the British could not. It would undoubtedly bring great prosperity to its train.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN W. WEST,
La Puente,
La Ville Danet,
35380 Plelan-le-Grand,
France,
April 19.

just could not resist a temptation to make themselves heard.

Nevertheless in my experience this was required, and yet at the justice and the manifestation that it is being done; whilst above all, jurymen retire to consider their verdict with no doubts remaining as to the evidence after it has been summed up by the coroner. In other courts where counsel take care of clients' interests there should be such opportunity for jurymen to seek clarification, and the time spent might well be saved afterwards in the jury room.

Yours etc.
J. SHACKLETON-BAILEY,
The Old Mill,
Blockley,
Moreton-in-Marsh,
Gloucestershire,
April 23.

Questions from juries

From Dr J. Shackleton-Bailey

Sir, Your correspondent Mr Robert Whiting (April 23) draws attention to the difficulties of jurymen arising out of their inability to obtain clarification of witnesses' evidence as a case in court proceeds. That is permitted in coroner's courts, and indeed it was my invariable practice to invite the jury to put a question to each witness after his evidence had been heard and solicitors had had their opportunity to question it.

The coroner of course is the judge of whether such questions should be allowed, as indeed most of them are in spite of the fact that sometimes solicitors simply felt that their clients had been satisfied that they were being represented and some jurymen

Facts about leeches

From Dr J. M. Elliott

Sir, The long-running saga of the medicinal leech has now gone full circle. The original article (October 21, 1981) on "The leech in peril of extinction" was partially based on a paper by Dr R. T. Sawyer in *Oryx*. In the latest contribution (April 27), Professor Payton assures us that the medicinal leech still exists in Britain and he cites Dr Sawyer as his source of information!

As there appears to be some confusion amongst your correspondents on this subject, perhaps the following facts may be of interest to your readers. There are 16 species of freshwater leeches in the British Isles; 11 (see on invertebrates (snails, worms etc.) on two such the blood of fish, and one sucks the blood of water-birds. The remaining two species suck the blood of vertebrates. One species, *Hemimentera costata*, has been recorded only once in the British Isles (in 1979) and its chief hosts

are the European terrapin and water-birds. It occasionally attacks man and was used as a medicinal leech in the Crimea. The other species, *Hirudo medicinalis*, is known to occur in several localities in Britain but is now absent from Ireland.

A monograph on British freshwater leeches was published by the Freshwater Biological Association in 1979 and includes a key to species with a review of their life cycles and ecology. An atlas of their known distribution in the British Isles was published by the Association in January. Other leeches, especially the horse leech, are frequently mistaken for the medicinal leech, but a genuine specimen of the latter is certainly as sanguivorous as its continental relatives.

Yours faithfully,
J. M. ELLIOTT,
Freshwater Biological Association,
The Ferry House,
Ambleside,
Cumbria.

Getting a share of lending right

From Lord Willis

Sir, It was the clear wish of Parliament that public lending right should benefit authors and authors alone. The publishers played no part in the campaign to establish PLR and neither the Act nor the scheme for its implementation makes any mention of publishers.

However, now that PLR has become law and there is a prospect of money for authors from 1983-84 onwards, a few disreputable publishers are using the back door to secure for themselves a share of the small pool of money that the Government has made available.

The method is simple. Authors are being told that unless they agree to give the publishers a share of their earnings from PLR their books will not be published. Some publishers are asking for as much as 50 per cent, others for 25 per cent.

Of course, no publisher would dare to make such a demand of a highly successful author, who could simply take his books elsewhere. So this imposition falls mainly on the poorer authors, the very people for whom PLR was designed.

I am glad to say that the majority of publishers have distanced themselves from this behaviour, preferring to leave PLR where it belongs—to the authors. As for the minority, there are several good old English words which could serve to describe their conduct.

One of them is blackmail. Yours faithfully,
WILLIS,
Chairman, Authors' Lending and Copyright Society,
House of Lords,
April 26.

Bankside Leviathans

From Mr A. C. Rodgers

Sir, I was somewhat shocked to read the article by Simon Jenkins (April 23) on the Green Giant competition. In the event that assessors should agree with your learned journalist and select Mr Farrell's "ultimate architectural joke", I would assume the burden of the joke will rest on the pension funds.

It is a deplorable situation when public money is put into what may become a rather short-lived joke appealing only to an architectural elite. I for one cannot see the funny side.

Yours faithfully,
A. C. RODGERS,
24 Ossulton Road, SE1.

Prevention is better

From Mr J. M. F. Clarke

Sir, Miss Edmundson (April 26) requests that car manufacturers place a little padding on the back of headrests. This would soften a blow which is preventable.

Rear passenger seat belts are designed to stop such injuries as the one described. Yours faithfully,
J. M. F. CLARKE,
The Middlesex Hospital,
Mortimer Street, W.1.

Countryside trust

From Mr Montague Keen

Sir, The logic of the Chairman of the Exmoor Society (April 21) is enchanting, and very typical of well-intentioned conservationists with their feet firmly on the clouds.

Guy Somerset rightly points to the serious difficulty in finding public money to compensate farmers who may be restricted from gainful activities on their land in order to satisfy what some conservationist bodies quite sincerely believe to be the superior interests of safeguarding certain flora and fauna. He commends the solution of outright purchase of land by responsible public bodies. He accepts, however, that it would be politically impossible for the Government to raise this money—at the expense of other rate-based services already under severe pressure; he acknowledges that the National Trust cannot find more money for its purposes.

He might have added, and I am sure he would agree, that two of the other quangos, the Countryside Commission and the Nature Conservancy Council, find themselves seriously starved of cash as it is and could not possibly contemplate any such huge burden.

And yet he calmly recommends the creation of a consortium of such bodies, private and public, to take the form of a special trust. In some magic, but unspecified, way the cross-fertilization of these individually impetuous bodies will make available "adequate funds which are so conspicuously lacking at present." Hey presto!

Yours faithfully,
MONTAGUE KEEN,
School Barn Farm,
Pentlow,
Suffolk.

Con fuoco

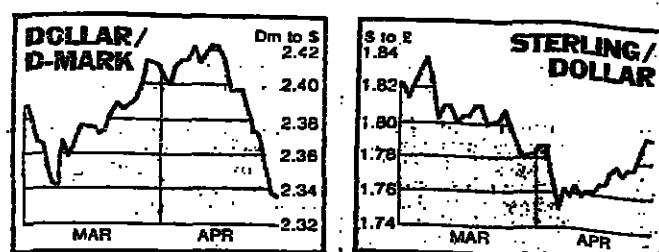
From the Reverend D. G. Richards

Sir, In 1973 there was a concert and organ recital in the church of SS Peter and Paul, Neath. Next the church was the fire station. During the playing of a piece by Bach the fire siren sounded; with great presence of mind and skill the organist changed key with the siren and earned spontaneous applause. Not true Bach but great fun.

Yours faithfully,
DEREK RICHARDS,
The Rectory,
Barmouth, Merioneth.

BUSINESS NEWS

Sterling still strong



Sterling has performed well against the dollar this week despite the Falklands crisis. This has, in large measure, been a reflection of dollar weakness. The United States currency has fallen away sharply, especially against the Deutschmark and the yen as foreign exchange operators have come to the conclusion that American interest rates may well start to fall soon. The pound has gained 2.25 cents against the dollar over the week, but it has lost ground to other currencies, falling, for instance, from DM 4.23 to DM 4.18. Its index against a basket of currencies has fallen 0.2 to 89.6. United Kingdom interest rates were little changed yesterday, though the Treasury Bill rate rose from 12.89 to 12.98 per cent at the weekly tender.

US markets in disarray

Confusion reigned yesterday on the United States commodity markets when news came in that Argentina would be willing to accept a United Nations resolution and withdraw its troops from the Falklands. Financial markets had been uncertain and in early morning trading, after a pessimistic forecast by Mr Alexander Haig, the United States Secretary of State, the commodity markets rose again in brisk trading while stock prices dropped.

Disposal boosts Chrysler

Chrysler Corporation made net profits of \$149.9m (£83.2m) in the first quarter, compared with a \$389.3 loss a year earlier. However, the net profit figure includes a gain of \$172.1m from the sale of its Chrysler Defence subsidiary, and \$66.9m from tax credits. Chrysler's operating loss for the quarter was \$89.1m compared with a \$320.2m loss in the same quarter last year. Sales rose to \$2,510m from \$2,250m last year, it said.

Belgium invited to June summit

Belgium has been invited to the June Summit in Paris of major industrialized countries, ending a diplomatic wrangle over whether it should be allowed to attend. Belgium contended that it should be present in its capacity as current president of the European Community Council of Ministers.

● Sketchley's \$33-a-share offer for Means Services, the American rental wear business, has lapsed. The bid lapsed after ARA Services, which was counter-bidding for Means at \$27, said it was paying for the Means shares already tendered to it. This amounted to 86 per cent.

● The American company Digital Communication Corporation has been awarded the main part of a contract for the supply of microwave equipment granted to the Mercury consortium headed by Cable & Wireless.

Receivers called

Receivers have been appointed by the Highlands and Islands Development Board in an attempt to salvage Lewis Drying, a fish drying factory on the Isle of Lewis.

The factory employs 16 full time and 13 casual workers.

● Tenneco, the American conglomerate, is to sell the Bush Boake Allen flavours and fragrances division of Al-Bright and Wilson, Tenneco's British subsidiary. The buyer is Union Camp Corporation. No sale price has been disclosed.

● British Telecom plans to open business centres in the main cities to demonstrate its equipment available from the corporation. The company already has centres in London, Aldershot and Manchester and has one planned for Birmingham.

Taxes lead BNOC to look abroad

By Jonathan Davis
Energy Correspondent

The state-owned British National Oil Corporation, which yesterday reported a record pre-tax profit of £438m, is planning a significant expansion overseas after its scheduled privatization later this year — partly to reduce its exposure to the high-tax North Sea operations.

Mr Philip Shelbourne, the corporation's chairman, presenting the 1981 annual report in Glasgow, attacked the offshore oil tax regime, which he said was in danger of driving drilling rigs out of the North Sea and creating serious oil production shortages in the late 1980s. Instead of the present three-tier tax system with its top marginal rate of 89 per cent, oil companies should only be required to pay corporation tax at 52 per cent as for the rest of manufacturing industry, he said.

Despite the 42 per cent increase in pre-tax profits from £308m to £438m, BNOC's net profit after tax was only marginally up from £72m to £77m. This included special Petroleum Duty payments of £126m, and corporation tax and Petroleum Revenue Tax provisions totalling £236m.

Mr Shelbourne said he was confident that the issue of 51 per cent of the shares in BNOC's exploration and production activities would be completed before the end of the year, despite fears that it could be delayed by the depressed state of the oil market. The sale, which the Government hopes will raise at least £750m, is scheduled for November, although Mr Shelbourne said the issue was likely to be partly paid for to make it easier for the market to absorb.

BNOC's overseas activities, which now include exploration interests in Dubai, Indonesia and Denmark, is expected to grow even more strongly after privatization.

BNOC is also pressing ahead with development plans for the Clyde field, on stream in 1987. It expects to submit an Annex B field development application to the Government in August.

On the oil crisis, Mr Shelbourne said it was too early to say whether the recent firming of spot prices justified an increase in North Sea official prices. The corporation, which trades 60 per cent of North Sea oil made a profit £6m on its oil trading activities last year. Sales totalled £4,917m. The trading arm is to remain 100 per cent state-owned. Mr Ian Clark, chairman of BNOC's trading arm, said the division faced a challenging future of its own. "In some years they will make a loss but in most years they will make a profit," he claimed.

As in 1980 BNOC was able to reduce its capital spending of £263m from its own cash flow. It also repaid £285m to the Treasury. Mr Shelbourne says, "We want a very substantial overseas programme by the end of the decade." The corporation expects to apply for a drilling licence in Ireland, and has also looked at projects in the United States and elsewhere. It apparently hopes to increase its share of overseas oil production to between 20 and 35 per cent by 1990.

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Bond pulls out of Lacey talks

By Philip Robinson

Speculation over the future of NCC Energy, headed by 33-year-old financier Mr Graham Ferguson Lacey intensified last night. Mr Alan Bond, head of the Australian conglomerate Bond Corporation and friend and business associate of Mr Lacey for many years, announced he had pulled out of all talks with NCC.

The two had been discussing joint exploration ventures in Australia. Mr Tony Oates, a Bond director, said last night from Perth: "We felt that we had to make our position clear, following speculation in this morning's Australian press. We do not hold any shares in NCC."

In a prepared statement, Bond said that the circumstances surrounding NCC would have no adverse effects on its associate company, Waltons Bond.

Waltons Bond owns 13.4 per cent of Simplicity Pattern, where Mr Lacey is chairman and chief executive and his NCC group has declared it owns 20 per cent. But yesterday, emerged a dispute over whether NCC's Simplicity stake is held free of all conditions. The stake is a main factor in the balance sheet of the loss-making energy exploration company

whose shares were suspended at 35p on the London Stock Exchange on Tuesday after falling from a 12p high in the past 12 months. Total debts a year ago were put at about £20m.

It is now thought that the Northern Bank had obtained a temporary injunction on Wednesday preventing NCC from disposing of its Simplicity stake without shareholder approval. The injunction expires next Wednesday.

Meanwhile, it has emerged that three million NCC shares were issued four months ago as security for a \$6.7m loan which was borrowed from NCC's New York advisers Drexel Burnham Lambert to buy a further 631,000 Simplicity shares which took NCC's holdings to 20 per cent. The NCC shares were given to the American Group Cook Industries, which owns 11.14 per cent of NCC, but under the terms of the contract Cook has the option to the end of this year to sell the shares back to NCC and receive the original \$6.7m plus interest.

In addition, when Waltons Bond bought its 13.4 per cent of Simplicity for \$26.5m, it is understood that NCC paid Waltons a non-refundable deposit of \$5m which NCC borrowed from the New York office of Marine Midland, pledging 600,000 of its Simplicity shares as security.

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empting to sort the company late last night at a meeting which started after lunch.

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Frederick Isquith returns to court on Monday for the second hearing of his legal action by three Simplicity shareholders seeking to freeze Waltons Bond stake, obtain the return of Simplicity's cash (it estimates that around \$70m has been spent since Mr Ferguson Lacey became chairman) and prevent any further cash from leaving the company.

The Bond Group says it plans to repay \$10m worth of deposits to Simplicity, although they say there was no obligation for them to do so at this time. The deposits are paid on unspecified projects between Simplicity and Bond.

There have been no official statements from Mr Ferguson Lacey since the NCC share suspension, although announcements are expected on a daily basis by his London advisers.

They have already expressed shock at the reversal of BMCT, a company incorporated in October 1978 to buy the whole of the issued capital of BMCT Counties Trust Ltd. The group has three directors, Mr Ferguson Lacey, his septa-nephew, Mr Cecil McBridge and company secretary Mr Stephen West.

CBI warns against pay reaction

By Edward Townsend
Industrial Correspondent

The Confederation of British Industry issued renewed warnings to employers yesterday that the slightest hint of business recovery could spark off bigger wage claims.

Mr Bryan Rigby, the CBI's deputy director general, said that as industry began the next pay round "all of us are worried that the earliest sign of recovery in even paper profits could trigger, if not an explosion, perhaps a rumble. Certainly we cannot rely on recession having produced a radical change in employee attitudes."

Employers' interdependence would be tested, he added. "Settlements in different sectors will have effects on others — comparability effects in bargaining, recurrent price effects in the labour markets and price effects in our balance sheets."

"Never was it more important to keep in touch with each other over pay developments and to understand each other's problems and opportunities."

So far this year, the CBI's pay databank is showing that settlements in manufacturing are averaging just over seven per cent, slightly down on last spring's 8.5 per cent. In the services sector, however, the average is up to 10 per cent.



Rigby: employers are worried

Mr Rigby, speaking at the British Insurance Broker's Association's conference in Bournemouth, said that one of the significant features of pay bargaining in the last two years had been the switch in bargaining pressures from external ones such as cost of living and comparability to internal factors such as survival and competitiveness.

"But while settlements which accurately reflect the ability of the individual company to compete are important, the average is also important. The same spread around a lower average would make all the difference to the United Kingdom goods and services more competitive, provide more jobs and more wealth to share."

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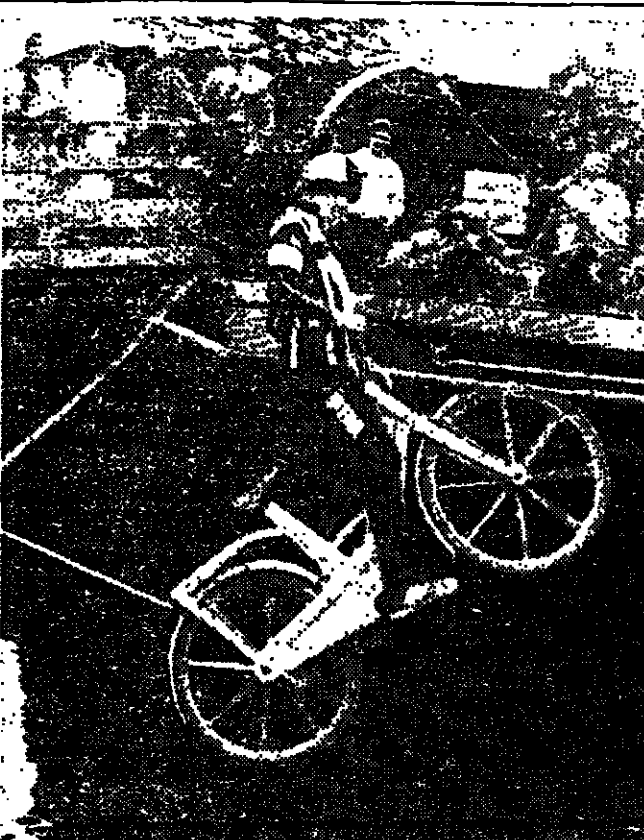
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Plastic bike takes off.

Plastic bike launched

By Clive Cookson

The world's first all-plastic bicycle was launched in Britain yesterday by the son of the man responsible for selling the Swedish-made Itera bike in this country, pedalled over the quayside into St Katherine's Dock, London.

All the Itera's structural components are made of injection-moulded composite plastics, developed originally for the aerospace industry. According to Mr Lars Samuelsson, the Swedish co-founder of the Itera company, the bicycle is the first product to be made from these materials for the mass market.

The Itera will be distributed in Britain by Falcon, the Humber-based bicycle manufacturer which is part of the Elswick-Hopper group. Mr Bill Holmes, Falcon sales manager, expects to sell 20,000 Iteras in the first year, at £139.95 each. He predicts that its introduction will give the United Kingdom bicycle market its biggest boost since Mr Alex Moulton introduced small-wheeled bikes in the 1960s.

Although the Itera is made in Sweden, it does have a British flavour. Hawall Whitney, the Essex engineering consultancy, was responsible for the detailed design work, and Sturmer Archer supplies the three-speed gears and a specially developed hub as well as some smaller components.

As Billy Holmes was launching the Itera his father's company was announcing the closure of one of its bicycle factories at Barton, South Humberdale.

The 200 employees at Barton will be offered new jobs eight miles away in Brigg, so "no major redundancies are expected."

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Lloyd's in clash over Qantas

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Bitter criticism of the ruling committee of Lloyd's was voiced yesterday by a leading Lloyd's broker over the decision to hold an inquiry into the renewal of insurance for Qantas, the Australian airline.

Mr Kenneth Grob, chairman of Alexander Howden which won the account from rival Baine Dawes, said the decision was nonsensical and attacked the committee for behaving "like clowns". "If they can do anything wrong and foul any situation up, they will do so," he said.

The Qantas affair has the makings of yet another major internal row in the London insurance market just as the Lloyd's Bill, designed to improve regulation in the market, reaches its Committee Stage in the House of Lords. Hearings start on Tuesday and the Qantas affair looks certain to bear on the contentious issues of diversification and immunity.

Lloyd's set up a sub-committee under deputy chairman Mr Tim Brennan to establish the facts of the Qantas case on Wednesday after representations from the market.

Aviation underwriters appear to have been upset when Howden tried to place the business in the Lloyd's market with Mr Ian Postgate, a marine underwriter whose syndicate is managed by the Howden Group, leading the underwriting.

The business has now been placed but with Mr Postgate, who is also a Lloyd's committee member, getting only a small share. Howden, meanwhile, is taking a \$500,000 loss on the business in order to meet its quote. Mr Grob said that Howden's committee in the Lloyd's market is the Lloyd's committee and the Qantas affair has its reputation and would also try to block the immunity clause in the Lloyd's Bill, designed to protect the committee from such litigation.

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MARKET SUMMARY

GEC leaps after hours

LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 575.1 down 6.9
FT 100 67.7 down 0.16
FT All Share 328.09 down 2.98
Bargains 15,560

Reports that Argentina is prepared to comply with the United Nations Resolution and withdraw from the Falklands came late for the Stock Market. But after being 11.3 adrift at 1pm the FT index recovered to close down 6.9 at 575.1.

Jobs quickly marked up leading equities by 10p and more after hours but were so reluctant to deal that they would only make a market in 259 Lloyd's Bank shares, instead of the normal market in 50,000. They were nominally marked up 20p in the 39th closing price.

Trade in gilts remained quiet with a small amount of selling pushing prices down by up to 2½ at the close. Stockjockers Akroyd & Smithers halted dealings when news of the apparent break-through arrived only minutes before the market closed. There were reports of limited after hours dealings at up to £3 above closing levels.

The outstandings after hours performance was put in by GEC with a 31p leap to 880p after easing 7p to 849p during the day. Traders now expect large gains when the market reopens on Tuesday after the long weekend, with bulls looking for the index to jump by 20 to 30 points.

Supermarket giant J Sainsbury provided one of the few bright spots with a 10p jump to 830p ahead of finals due on Wednesday when the market is looking for a rise in pre-tax profits from 82m to around £80m.

Anderson Strathclyde continued to surge ahead, up 9p at 127p, awaiting a much-rumoured bid from Charter Consolidated, but Guinness Holdings slumped 13p at 197p in the absence of any dawn raid.

Dry cleaning shares were buoyant with Sunlight Services gaining 6p to 115p in response to a 38 per cent profit boost and Johnson Group 11p better at 22p in sympathy. Sketchley put on 3p at 273p on news that its offer for the United States group Means had now now lapsed and 4 million shares would not be placed.

The victory of the shareholders over the Lomho board in its attempt to increase the group's borrowing limits left the shares 1p better at 65p, with the prospect of the shares now appearing more attractive to institutional investors.

Leading equities generally showed modest losses of up to 1p, with the picture distorted by Blue Circle at 476p, Glaxo at 613p and Plessey at 395p all quoted in ex dividend form.

Moss Bros marked its return to profits with a 10p jump to 450p while elsewhere among trading news there was satisfaction at Exeter Building at 195p, up 5p, and Brown Boveri Cent 2½p better at 24p.

CFA Group, whose ten greyhound stadium include the White City, returned to a full listing at 18p. Equity turnover on April 29 was £171.94m (15,033 bargains). Gareth Davis

OTHER EXCHANGES

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 7,390.71 down 14.57
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1,323.36 up 20.27

COMMODITIES

● It was a "half day" on the London Metal Exchange as the holiday drew near. But gold futures in New York responded to the change in news about Argentina and the Falklands. After the August position closed £7 up in London at £208 an ounce, gold futures slumped by the \$25 limit in New York when it was reported that Argentina had agreed to abide by the Security Council resolution and the United States would apply sanctions.

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● By contrast, the softs traded for the whole day. The May International Petroleum Exchange gas

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Hinckley top of the crop

Subscription Account is the name given to regular savings accounts by most building societies and they generally involve paying a regular sum on a monthly basis.

You are not usually allowed to add large capital sums to the account although you can in certain circumstances, pay subscriptions up to three months in advance.

Societies traditionally offer a higher rate of interest on Subscription Accounts as regular payments assist their cash flow. Building Societies Association recommended rate is 10 per cent per annum but many societies with both trustee status and Building Societies Association membership offer more.

Top of the interest league table is the Hinckley which offers 12.25 per cent on its Self Service shares for a minimum £1 per month and a maximum £40. No withdrawals are permitted and the rate falls to 8.75 per cent if the maximum of £500 is not reached. On reaching the maximum, the principal and accrued interest are either transferred to another account (where a lower rate applies) or a cheque is sent to the investor. Then payments can continue up to £500 again.

The Leamington Spa's Bonus account pays 11.93 per cent for monthly sums of £1 to £100 up to maximum of £3,600. This rate is calculated as 9.10 per cent for up to three years and, if held for that length, a 'bonus' of one-third of the interest is added.

The London-based Prop-

erty Owners offers 11.75 per cent on its Monthly Savings accounts from £1 to £100 per month. The rate falls to 10.75 per cent on June 1st.

Up to three withdrawals a year are permitted without penalty and closure of the account is on demand.

The Stockport-based Vernon Building Society offers 11.5 per cent for its Super

For the past month, building societies have been paying new rates to their investors. Conal Gregory takes a look at what is available on regular saving schemes where it is still possible to earn as much as 12.25 per cent

Savings account although the rate drops to 10.5 per cent on May 1st. In addition, the Vernon gives an extra 0.25 per cent where 12 consecutive payments are made in a calendar year. Sums from £1 to £100 per month may be invested up to £10,000 in total.

The Sussex County (based on Lewes) has increased the maximum sum that can be invested per month in its Regular Savings account to £200, which is double the pre-April level. It offers 11.25 per cent. The minimum monthly sum is £10 and the account can continue until £5,000 has been reached.

Two higher paying Leicestershire societies are the Shephard and Loughborough Permanent. The Shephard's Subscription account from £1

to £50 per month up to £20,000 offers 10.75 per cent, but this falls to 9 per cent if it is closed in any calendar year. The Loughborough Permanent also offers 10.75 per cent for monthly sums of £1 to £50 up to £5,000.

Among those paying higher rates and also allowing a withdrawal is the Swindon based North White Equitable. The Portsmouth's Subscription account is for a five year period, investing £1 to £100 monthly. The rate is 10.55 per cent but falls to 8.55 per cent if the five years are not completed.

Many societies have agencies outside their branch districts and payments may be made regularly to those, as well as by cheque, banker's order or direct debit in most cases.

The rates quoted are net of basic pre-tax. The tax deducted at source cannot be reclaimed. It is also important to remember that rates are liable to fluctuate which should be taken into account when entering a commitment over a considerable period of time.

Among the other societies offering monthly schemes above the Building Societies Association rate are Colne in Lancashire (10.5), Hears of Oak and Enfield (10.5), Haywards Heath and District (10.5), Reigate based Holmesdale Benefit (10.5), Lambeth in London (10.5), London Commercial (10.5), London based Argyle (10.5), Portsmouth based Hampshire (10.5) and the Peterborough (10.5).

Broader currency choice in new fund

Latest entrant into the currency fund market is Save & Prosper which launched this week a Jersey based fund offering small investors the advantages of money market interest rates on relatively small sums of money, and a choice of four currencies.

With three banks already in the field, and pioneers Rothschild, way out ahead with their Old Court International Reserves fund, what has Save & Prosper to offer that is not already available?

At the moment the extra ingredient offered by S&P is the option to hold yen as well as sterling, US dollars or D-Marks. None of the other funds in the market have a yen facility. In addition, S&P is expecting to launch a cheque book facility but since this is not yet available it is only a potential advantage.

On the minus side S&P's charges are higher than its competitors. Rothschild for example makes a flat 0.75 per cent per annum charge on the value of its fund. S&P has a similar charge but can also deduct other management expenses up to a maximum total charge of 1.25 per cent a year — and admits that in the early years this will be the annual levy as they have to recoup their start-up costs.

The other funds also scored over S&P by offering a free switching facility between the different currencies — S&P investors get only one free switch per quarter and then there is a charge of £5 (or the currency equivalent) for each move.

Of the three other multi-currency funds, Rothschild's Old Court International reserves offers the widest range of currencies with 10 to choose from and has taken in some \$22m since it was launched 16 months ago. Bankers Leopold Joseph and Charterhouse run the other two funds, both offering a choice of five currencies (plus SDSs from Charterhouse).

All are run on broadly similar lines with no "front-end load" and no spread on the quoted price of shares.

All that is required to make a switch is a telephone instruction (generally before 11 am or noon), in which case currencies will be switched at the exchange rate prevailing that day.

How much does it cost to convey a house? People are used to shopping around for the cheapest packet of detergent or toothpaste, but are aghast at the thought of haggling with a solicitor over his fees.

Yet the experience of one homebuyer reveals just how much money can be saved if you are prepared to negotiate, what for many is a major item of cash expenditure.

Francine Jordache is probably a fairly typical first-time buyer. At the beginning of this year she started searching for a house and in February found what she wanted — a one-bedroom flat in Whetstone, North London. She eventually agreed with the sellers a price of £23,300 which seemed reasonable, so she went to see her Halifax building society manager to arrange a loan. He agreed to lend her £21,000 on the property.

Francine had never needed a solicitor before so she did the sensible thing and asked the building society manager if he could recommend someone locally.

He put her in touch with three of the society's "panel" solicitors. If Francine used one of these, she would save the expense of correspondence between her solicitor and the solicitor who acts for the building society.

The manager suggested she got in touch with either Derrick Bridges and Co, Boyes Sutton and Perry, or Milnes and Milnes, all of whom had offices in Wood Street, Barnet. In addition, Francine's estate agent recommended Vander Pump and Sykes of Crouch End.

As a first time buyer Francine had nothing to sell so the conveyance was a straightforward purchase of the flat. Being an enterprising individual she rang all



Francine Jordache: enterprising

four firms and was surprised to find that there were substantial differences in the fees quoted by the four solicitors.

"I talked to them on the telephone and they all said that the figures they quoted were rough estimates, but there was still a large difference," between Boyes Sutton and Perry, or Milnes and Milnes, all of whom had offices in Wood Street, Barnet. In addition, Francine's estate agent recommended Vander Pump and Sykes of Crouch End.

All four solicitors quoted a flat £58 for the Land Registration fee and £116.50 Stamp Duty (back in February she would have been liable for stamp duty though this was subsequently changed by the Budget). Here the similarities

Boyes Sutton and Perry was the most expensive by far, quoting a flat £300 fee plus £20 for sundries. Vander Pump & Sykes wanted £200 with £11.20 for sundries and £16.00 postage. Milnes & Milnes estimated a basic fee of £230 plus £10.20 local government search, and £40 mortgage arrangement fee for liaising with the Halifax. Cheapest was Derrick Bridges & Co, which quoted a flat fee of £190 plus £20 for sundries. All quoted varying figures for value-added tax which were not necessarily a flat 15 per cent of the basic fee. The totals including the standard charges for stamp duty (now no longer payable) and land registration fee looked like this:

Boyes Sutton & Perry	£539.50
Milnes & Milnes	£484.70
Vander Pump & Sykes	£434.10
Derrick Bridges & Co.	£414.50

"When I compared the quotes, I decided to use Derrick Bridges and Co," says Francine. "However I must say they were all very helpful and they did stress that these were only rough estimates and that the final figure may turn out to be slightly lower."

The Law Society confirms that shopping around is the best policy and that there is nothing unusual in such large discrepancies between solicitors' estimates. "Homebuyers should take about half a dozen solicitors in their area and ask for estimates," says Mike Moriarty of the Law Society. "Solicitors will generally tend to keep to within 10 per cent either way of their original quote."

The Budget changes mean that Francine will now no longer be liable for Stamp Duty of £116.50, which is a big saving, but in addition, by spending a few hours making telephone calls, she has cut her legal costs by £125.

MONEY TALK Account for low taxpayers

If regular income is your requirement and you pay little or no tax, a new account from National Westminster Bank might appeal. NatWest's new monthly income account is available to personal savers whether NatWest customers or not. Minimum investment is £2,000 and interest is paid monthly into a current account.

The interest rate will vary in line with changes in bank interest rates generally but NatWest says it intends to keep it above the current 7 day deposit rate. The new monthly income account is currently paying 12 per cent and will probably appeal to the elderly, and to teenagers who pay little or no tax.

NatWest's nearest competitor on this type of account is the National Savings Bank Investment account which has the distinct disadvantage of paying interest annually.

NSB should look to its laurels and bring its methods of paying interest into the 20th century if it doesn't want to lose money to NatWest. NSB currently offers 13 per cent (from Monday) but unless you leave your money untouched for 12 months, it is almost impossible to achieve this return because of the way interest is calculated.

Stately target
Owners of stately homes seem to be the next target for the VATman. "A disposal of an article from a stately home by a person registered for value-added tax is likely to be liable to VAT if any one of the following conditions applies," warns the latest communication from Customs and Excise.

These are the conditions: A — if the article has been on view to the public. B — if the proceeds from the disposal of the article accrue to persons or bodies registered for VAT. C — if any VAT incurred on the purchase of the article was deducted as input tax (if it was acquired after April 1 1973). D — if any VAT incurred on maintenance, repair or restoration of the article has been deducted as input tax.

VAT leaflet 701/12/82 explains in more detail and covers the disposal of antique works of art or other contents of stately homes.

Kidnap cover
Working abroad isn't all beer and skittles as anyone who is currently sweating it out in Argentina or the Falklands will confirm. One of the nastier hazards in some areas is the possibility of kidnap, internment, detention or hijack. Insurance brokers, Chandler, Hargreaves Whitall are offering cover for these risks as an optional extra to their British Expatriate Insurance policy. It already covers such eventualities as personal accident, medical expenses, and most important, any unexpected tax liability incurred as a result of a sudden recall to Britain.

Cover can be bought in units i.e. £5,000 of medical expenses, £1,000 contingent tax cover etc.

Divorcees' child benefit

Woman who are largely dependant on maintenance from an ex-husband can find themselves in severe financial difficulties if he dies. But there is help available.

One such aid is the Child's Special Allowance, which can be paid every week to a divorced woman when her former husband dies, if at the time of his death, she has a child which he was helping to support.

However not many women in this situation appear to take advantage of the allowance. About 700 or so receive it in respect of around 1,100 children. The benefit is worth £7.70 a week going up to £7.95 from next November.

It is paid in addition to the £5.25 weekly child benefit, which is also paid to each eligible child. There is one drawback, though. Anyone who gets the £3.30 a week one-parent benefit has to give that up in order to get the higher child's special allowance.

How can a divorced woman qualify for the allowance? A

number of special conditions have to be met before it can be paid. The most important is that the woman has not remarried. As well, she must be entitled to child benefit for each child for whom she claims the allowance; and must have been entitled to it when her former husband died. Alternatively, if the child (or children) are hers by her former husband, she may also be able to receive the allowance if he was getting child benefit for the children when he died.

Two other points also have to be considered. Firstly, her former husband must have been supporting the child concerned to the amount of at least 25p a week (or the woman was entitled to get at least that from him, whether he paid it or not). Second, the former husband must have paid enough in national insurance contributions.

If all these conditions are met, then the allowance can be paid. Claims should be made to the local office of

the Department of Health and Social Security. Documents needed will include the marriage certificate, evidence of divorce or annulment, and details of the payment or provision the former husband was making towards child support.

It is important to claim the Child's Special Allowance as soon as possible after the death of the former husband. The allowance cannot be paid back for more than three months from the time of the claim, unless there is a good reason for delay. In any event, it cannot ever be paid for more than 12 months before the date the claim is made.

Child's special allowance will continue until each child for whom it is being received reaches 16, or 19, if he or she stays on at school. It also stops if the woman receiving it remarries, or if for any reason the child involved loses the entitlement to child benefit.

Jan McDonald

POSTBAG

Getting a fair deal

From Mr S. W. Korber

Sir, I was interested to read your excellent article entitled "How Employees Lose Out When They Change Jobs". I am currently fighting a battle with my previous employer's pension fund trustees. I am being offered just under 2 year's service with the new company's scheme in return for over 7 year's with the old one, because the transfer value is so poor. The thing that interests me is whether any existing legislation such as the Unfair Contracts Act could help people in my position to get a fairer deal. I would be grateful for any guidance you could give on this point.

Yours faithfully,
S. W. KORBER, Esq.,
Dore,
Sheffield.

Litigation even if you had grounds for bringing an action is likely to be expensive with no guarantee of success.

Your best course of action is to see a consulting actuary or pension consultant who may well be able to negotiate a better transfer sum on your behalf. If your new employer still offers a poor deal in terms of years of service, you could take your transfer funds to London and Manchester Assurance which runs a special pension scheme — Transplan designed to cope specifically with this problem. The Association of Consulting Actuaries (65 London Wall, London EC2M 5XE) or the Society of Pension Consultants (Ludgate House, Ludgate Circus, London EC4A 2AB) will be able to recommend one of their members in your area.

Arbuthnot Dollar Income Trust Limited

An Investment Portfolio of Dollar Securities in a Jersey Based Company, Quoted on The London Stock Exchange.

DIRECTORS ANNOUNCEMENT 15th APRIL 1982

"We believe that with the present high Interest Rates in the U.S.A., investments made now in this Fund will benefit from the rates of over 15.0%* available. There will also be good prospects of capital growth when U.S. Interest Rates fall, as part of the portfolio is invested in U.S. Dollar Bond Issues and the capital value of these should appreciate when this occurs."

* Estimated market average yield available in this fund on 15/4/82.

AIM OF THE TRUST. To achieve an attractively high return whilst protecting capital values in a company which offers investors the prospects to benefit from current high levels of American interest rates and also affords sterling investors a good opportunity of including Dollar securities in their portfolios.

PORTFOLIO PROFILE. Investment in a range of fixed interest and floating rate Dollar securities, primarily U.S. Dollar and Eurodollar Money Market instruments and Government Agency Securities.

Income Shareholders will receive gross dividends quarterly in U.S. Dollars, free of any withholding tax (except to Jersey residents). Capital Shareholders (who may not be residents of the UK or Jersey) receive a scrip issue of equal value with each distribution.

The Company Offers a Currency Conversion Service. Custodians, Secretaries and Registrars: Standard Chartered Trust Company (C.I.) Limited. Managers: Arbuthnot Securities (C.I.) Ltd., 20, Box 428, Commercial Street, St. Helier, Jersey.

PLEASE SEND THIS COUPON DIRECT OR THROUGH YOUR PROFESSIONAL ADVISER TO:

ARBUTHNOT DOLLAR INCOME TRUST LIMITED
To: ARBUTHNOT SECURITIES LTD, 37 QUEEN ST, LONDON EC4R 1BY Tel: 01-236 5281 (Extn. 300)

Please send me a copy of the company's prospectus (on the terms of which alone application for shares will be considered).

Name _____
Address _____

ARBUTHNOT

Issued by Arbuthnot Securities Limited (Licensed Dealers in Securities)

SCOTTISH PROVIDENT

Continuing to meet the needs of the times

Points from the Statement by the Chairman, Mr James A. Lumsden, MBE TD, DL, LLB

Record annual bonuses

We have maintained the rate of bonus on the major immediate-profit assurance classes at 65% per annum but, as this bonus now compounds every year instead of every three years, its value is significantly increased. A bonus rate of 65% per annum compounding annually is equivalent to a bonus of £52.5% per annum compounding triennially.

Similarly, for "self-employed" deferred annuities and the "E Type Retirement Benefits Plan, the rate of bonus has been maintained at 67% per annum — equivalent to a bonus of £75.0% per annum compounding triennially.

This year the continuing strength of our investment position enabled us to introduce claims bonuses for "self-employed" deferred annuities and the "E Type Plan with effect from 1st July 1981 and to increase these and all other claims bonuses at the beginning of 1982.

Scottish Provident Managed Pension Funds Limited

I am glad to report that our subsidiary company, Scottish Provident Managed Pension Funds Limited, has had a most successful first year. Total funds under management at the end of 1981 exceeded £40 million. The mixed and

equity funds have shown particularly good performance: the equity portfolio 1st January 1982 over 118.0 and 132.0 respectively compared with 100 at 1st January 1981 and both funds were a clear first in recognised comparative performance tables for the year 1981 — an outstanding result by any standards.

New products

Two particular product innovations from Scottish Provident within the last year have emphasised how readily the traditional assurance policy can be adapted to meet a whole variety of consumer needs. Under our Ten Year Income Plan, a capital sum is invested for a ten year period to provide a high income with the capital returned in full at the end of the ten years subject to normal bonuses being maintained.

Under our Executive Incentive Plan, an employer can fund (with full corporation tax relief) the effective of an open-ended pension policy by a key executive, the proceeds of which are the executive's to enjoy in his own right (completely tax-free) provided he completes the period of service specified in the simple governing agreement.

The Scottish Provident has continued to produce new types of policy and new adaptations of existing policies to meet the needs of the times. I know our reputation as an innovative office is appreciated by our agents and whose support over the years we are glad to rely.

Copies of the Report and Accounts are available on request from the Head Office. The Scottish Provident Institution, 6 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YA.

SCOTTISH PROVIDENT

Royal Life (Unit Linked Assurances) Ltd., PO Box 30,
New Hall Place, Liverpool L69 3HS. T/1

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§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

a Ex dividend, b Ex all, c Forecast dividend, d Corrected price, e Interim payment passed, f Price at suspension, g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment, h Bid for company, i Pre-merger figures, j Forecast earnings, k Ex capital distribution, l Ex rights, m Ex scrip or share split, n Tax free, o Price adjusted for late dealings. . . No significant data.

Test-tube twins 'are doing well'

By Nicholas Timmins

The first test-tube twins to be born in Britain were last night said to be "very healthy for their size and doing well".

The twins, Daniel and Christopher, were born to Mrs Josephine Smith, aged 31, at the Royal Free Hospital, Hampstead, north London, just before midnight on Thursday night.

They weighed 4lb 10oz and 5lb 2oz and were both delivered naturally, six weeks premature. Last night they were in the special care baby unit in the hospital, as a routine precaution.

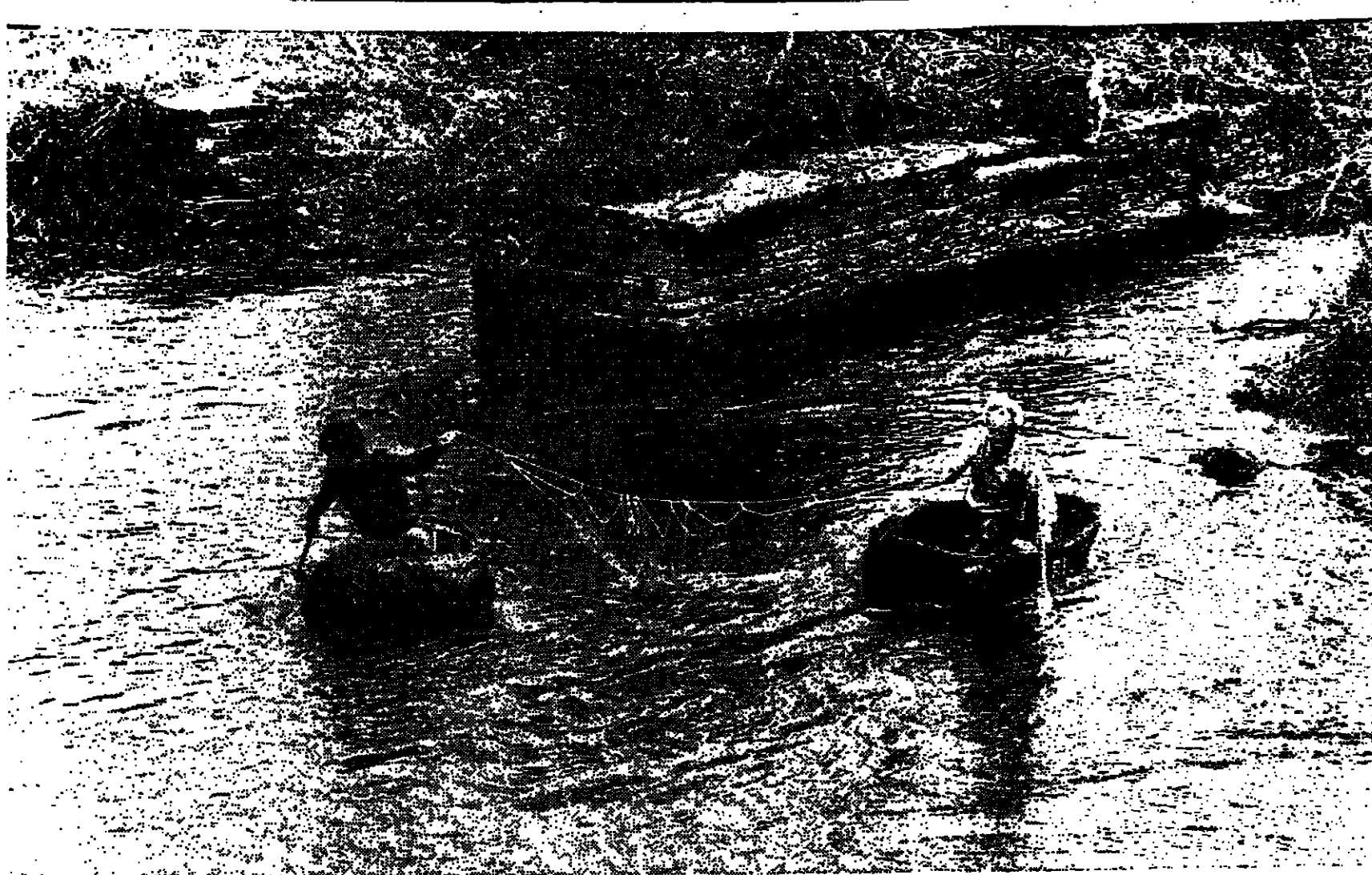
They are the first test-tube babies born within the National Health Service since 1978 and 1979 when three were delivered under Dr Robert Edwards and Mr Patrick Steptoe at Oldham General Hospital. The twins make the team led by Professor Ian Craft, professor of obstetrics and gynaecology at the Royal Free, only the second in Britain to achieve success with the technique.

In Mrs Smith's case, three fertilized eggs were replaced to increase the chances that one of them would implant. All three implanted initially, but one foetus then died.

Mrs Smith, aged 31, an inland revenue civil servant, and her husband Stewart, a Post Office worker, come from Stockport. She had been unable to have a child because she was born with one fallopian tube missing, and had to have the other removed after an ectopic pregnancy. Thus her only hope of having a child was by the test-tube baby technique.

Professor Craft said last night he hoped similar births could happen throughout the health service (the Press Association reports). "If we can make the technique simpler and available in more district general hospital settings, then it is some hope for the future."

Research fears, page 2



A coracle pair working down the River Teifi, their net strung between them, before carrying home their catch and craft (below).

The netmen nettled

From Tim Jones, Llechryd, Dyfed

In far west Wales an annual battle older than Christianity has begun again. Salmon and sea trout, sent into Cardigan Bay, are moving up the rivers of the upper reaches where fine gravel provides a nursery for their spawn.

Not all will make it, for waiting in the sweet-flowing River Teifi are the coracle fishermen. With a 14-ft net strung between them, two coracles working together drift down the gentle current to take their share of the harvest.

It is a timeless scene, but one the coracle men fear is threatened. The Welsh Water Authority, alarmed by decreasing stocks, is seeking

new curbs to protect a business worth £30m a year. The coracle men say their livelihood is being sacrificed to place the wealthy anglers' clubs of England on whose stretches of the river thousands of members fish each year.

Mr Bernard Thomas, a coracle man for fifty years, agrees that the fish stock has fallen, but firmly denies that his ancient method is responsible for the decline.

"In 1860 there were 300 pairs on this river and salmon were so plentiful that farmers had to undertake not to give it to their servants more than twice a week."

"Now, there are only 16 licences for 32 pairs, but the authority issued more than

22,000 licences last year to individual anglers."

Mr Thomas, who once crossed the English Channel in a coracle, has lobbied Parliament with his craft on his back to gain protection for what he considers an integral part of Celtic culture.

"We have been persecuted since the time of James I and now it seems that the water authority wants to reduce the number of licences to just twelve. Others go even further and say we should only have six licences. Only anglers are now allowed. Llechryd Bridge. I am disgusted that in 1982 a body of people, because they are in the majority, should want to suppress the ancient craft of a minority."



Bonn fails to crack British position

Continued from page 1

to officials present at the negotiations. The Danish and French agriculture ministers rang Copenhagen, where President Mitterrand was on an official visit, and they told their leaders that Britain was still not prepared to give in on the farm package.

The French President, after conferring with Mr Jorgensen the Danish Prime Minister, rang Herr Schmidt in Bonn who was already apparently annoyed at the fact that a week earlier Mr Pym had been unimpressed by a request for rebate offer from his partners worth about £430m.

Herr Josef Ertl, the West German Agriculture Minister, had already been recalled earlier in the day from Luxembourg to Bonn to discuss how to break the British deadlock.

President Mitterrand suggested that Herr Schmidt might be able to persuade Mrs Thatcher to soften the British line. At Number 10, Mrs Thatcher told him firmly on the telephone that she had every confidence in her ministers' ability to negotiate.

Herr Schmidt then decided to go the other way. He tried to isolate Britain and crack its position by convincing him to spend what was necessary to bring West Germany in line with other countries. Herr Ertl sent back into the negotiations with his orders, while President Mitterrand and Mr Jorgensen rang other leaders in the Benelux countries.

Mr Buchanan-Smith said he "genuinely" found France came with proposals for yet further price increases. The West Germans, he said, then turned to the French and the Danes then put forward a price increase proposal for cereals, rape seed oil, and beef and was given much West German and Dutch backing.

"I found it extremely surprising," Mr Buchanan-Smith said afterwards. Both Denmark and West Germany had then backed British objections to the size of proposed price increases and

suddenly they came forward with new even higher ones of their own. "I am very disappointed that some delegations were prepared to compromise their long standing positions," Mr Buchanan-Smith said.

There was at least one other sign of behind-the-scenes wheeling and dealing. Belgium was allowed to revalue its green franc rate by 5.8 per cent immediately, something which up to now France had vehemently opposed.

Mr Paul de Keersmaecker, the Belgian Agriculture Minister who presided at the meeting, kept everyone working through the complicated dossier in an effort to clear up as much as possible before the budget negotiations resume. The final package has been approved in its totality now by seven out of the 10 countries although the wine question will still need a good deal of work done on it.

Bonn: Herr Schmidt is understood to have conveyed to Mrs Thatcher his disappointment that she has not responded to European support with a more helpful approach to Community problems (Patricia Clough writes).

The West Germans, who joined the trade embargo against Argentina at considerable sacrifice to themselves, are sure that this has not changed the British attitude to the Community. Herr Schmidt did not say this in so many words during his telephone conversation with Mrs Thatcher, informed sources said, but he implied it in their discussion of the Falkland crisis and of the EEC budget and agriculture problems.

At a press conference here at the end of his three day state visit to Denmark, President Mitterrand, said today that France would not use the Falklands issue to press Britain to reach a swift solution of the EEC budgetary and agricultural price problems (Christopher Follett writes).

"That would be an unfortunate method," Mitterrand said.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements
Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, Air Chief Commander, Women's Royal Air Force, attends Air Gunners' Association Bomber Command reunion dinner at Grosvenor House Hotel, London, 6.30.

Solution of Puzzle No 15,814

ACROSS
1 Stone-age foresight? (10).
2 Like the ewe lamb, or the pearl of great price (4).
3 As Athens with Athens, so Wendy with Barrie (5-5).
4 But at cards one's higher than he (4).
5 What may bring prices down in the sales (5,7).
6 Lacking entertainment on night of June 24 (9).
7 Broadcaster delighted to be walking through (2,3).
8 This said to expedite mending process, anyhow at this (5).
9 Enjoy drinks with National Trust - how permissive (9).
10 Go in the local, upset about the races (12).
11 Whale-hunting 10 in the Bible? (4).
12 Item One on the agenda before doing anything else (5,5).
13 Openings in the East, certainly (4).
14 Sang, being famous (10).

DOWN

1 Goals for some who crawl (4).
2 Old Master comes up for a short test (4).
3 Perfection in addition, after study (12).
4 And this, with Brutus, seen as honourable (5).
5 Business with many fell away and folded up (9).
6 I'm batting, exultant all round? "Out!" (10).
7 In tree development plant-groups are given new life (10).
8 Auburn rustics amazed "That one small head could carry all he knew" (12).
9 Falsify a deal? Utter nonsense! (10).
10 Satisfied with a few words in translation (10).
11 Abridge so record is in one volume... (9).
12 ...result, publication (5).
13 Chaff about one reveal (4).
14 Oath used by renegades (4).

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,820

A prize of The Times Atlas of the World (comprehensive edition) will be sent for the first correct solution open next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, 12 Coley Street, London WC9N 9YT. The winner and solution will be published next Saturday.

The winner of last Saturday's competition is Mr. W. S. Allen, 24, Sherlock Road, Cambridge.

Name: _____

Address: _____

May Day

May Day festival, - Victoria Park, E8; Music, theatre, stalls, fireworks; from 11.
May Day celebration - The Barbican Centre; 11 to 1 - children's party with dancing, folk music, Punch and Judy; through-out the day - traditional English folk dancing and entertainments.

Solution of Puzzle No 15,819

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Shadow Puppet Theatre for children

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